FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force carried out "destructive" raids on Tehran, Qazvin, Shiraz, Ilam, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab during the evening of 28 March, Iraq announced in official statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Iraqi planes also hit two maritime targets in the Gulf, according to a military communique broadcast by the radio. An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied an Iranian claim that an Iraqi aircraft was shot down over Tehran. In reports on the effects of the Iraqi attacks on 28 March, IRNA and Tehran radio spoke of 62 casualties in Baneh and 24 in Ilam. Meanwhile, Iranian artillery continued to pound Basra and other Iraqi border cities, according to an Iranian Joint Staff statement cited by the radio.

Commenting on the war in a speech broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's desire for an end to the fighting, with both sides returning to the international borders and guaranteeing peace, stability, and noninterference in each others' affairs. However, he warned that the Iraqis will not be terrified by Iran's surface-to-surface missiles, acquired from certain "disappointed Arab traitors" who will "pay the price for this treason," and he predicted that Iraq will use "the kind of weapon" that will bolster Iraqi morale. In another development, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrived in Moscow on 29 March for talks with his Soviet counterpart Andrey Gromyko, INA noted. 'Aziz was accompanied by Staff General 'Abd Al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs.

Sudan

Demonstrators in Khartoum set two gas stations afire in further protests against price increases, according to sources cited by AFP. Meanwhile, a Khartoum Public Security Department communique transmitted by SUNA accused "vagabonds" and "saboteurs" of exploiting the situation and warned that the security forces will soon "clear" Khartoum of all "suspect elements." The courts have already sentenced 300 "vagabonds" for their part in the disturbances, the communique noted. The authorities called on Muslim Brotherhood leaders to surrender to the police, SUNA reported, and the Armed Forces Committee announced its support for the homeland against "overt and covert plots." The General Federation of Trade Unions also expressed support for the government in a statement reported by Omdurman radio, calling on workers to fulfil their responsibilities and to cooperate "to curb the saboteur groups."

In the south, the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) will henceforth administer "liberated" areas in accordance with SPLM law, an SPLM official announced in a statement cited by the clandestine Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi welcomed the unrest in Sudan during a speech broadcast by Tripoli radio, telling his audience that "all our means" are at the disposal of the Sudanese "popular revolution" against President Ja'far Numayri's regime. On the Iran-Iraq war, he held Iraq more responsible than Iran for the attacks on cities, but he warned Iran against developing a "colonialist" desire to occupy and subjugate Iraq, something which would herald the end of the Iranian revolution and would forfeit Libya's support for Iran.

Arab League

Morocco has threatened to withdraw from the Arab League if the latter approves the SDAR's participation in the Arab-African ministerial conference in Libya next month, KUNA reported. The warning was conveyed to the Arab League Council meeting in Tunis by Moroccan delegate Mohamed Tazi, who stressed that his country can "under no conditions whatsoever" accept the SDAR's participation in the meetings of the Arab-African committee. The delegation leaders in Tunis accordingly decided to "postpone" the SDAR's participation in the Arab-African meeting, KUNA added. For the SDAR's part, an Information Ministry statement cited by Algiers radio denounced "unacceptable pressures and interference in the internal affairs of Africa" and stressed the SDAR's determination to participate in all meetings and conferences concerning the member-countries of the OAU.

As for the Arab League Council's position on the Iran-Iraq war, a council statement cited by SPA asserted that "all" Arab countries show solidarity with Iraq and will try to end the hostilities.

Lebanon

The Lebanese Army clashed with the Phalangist Lebanese Forces in eastern Sidon on 28 March, Beirut radio reported, and the Phalangists "expanded the area of tension" by deploying opposite the Palestinian refugee camps at Al-Miyah wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah. further south, the army of southern lebanon (ASL) responded to the assassination of an ASL official by burning houses in the village of Shaqra, according to a security source cited by the radio. Meanwhile, IDF radio announced that the IDF killed three "terrorists" in a clash near the Al-Litani River the night of 28-29 March. The IDF has killed some 70 "terrorists" and arrested hundreds of suspects in recent operations, according to Jerusalem radio.

In Beirut, gunmen kidnapped and later released two Frenchmen, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, while the "Revolutionary Organization of Socialist Muslims" claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of UNRWA employee Alec Collett, whom it described as a spy for Israel and the CIA.

Oman

An Omani official in Kuwait denied local press speculation about the objectives of forthcoming Omani military maneuvers, telling KUNA that Oman "does not feel any threat or concern from either Iran or the PDRY."

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'Arafat, Saudi Foreign Minister Confer in Tunis

JN281846 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Tunis yesterday. During the meeting they discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and the Arab region.

Reaction to Formation of National Salvation Front

Syrian 'Noninvolvement' Examined

LD282152 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] A Palestinian spokesman, commenting on what Faruq al-Shar', the Syrian foreign minister, announced about Syria's noninvolvement in the formation of the Salvation Front and about attacks on the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement, made the following statement:

It seems that Mr al-Shar' is not satisfied with the resolutions which were adopted by the Ba'th Party conference, which was held under the chairmanship of Al-Asad in Damascus at the beginning of this year and which adopted a resolution to form this front. Not only this, but the appointment of its leadership. (?It is expected) that Mr al-Shar' should at least be knowledgeable about the resolutions of this party conference, in which he physically participated. It is strange that Mr al-Shar' attacks the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, forgetting that his country for years established a federation with Jordan, whose good points the Syrian regime used to praise.

But it seems that the memory of Al-Asad's envoy to the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers needs some jogging. At the same time we are amazed at the insolence of the words which Al-Shar' used in talking about the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. But it seems that creating verbal storms is a way of hiding the secret agreements which took place between Al-Asad and Murphy against the Palestinian revolution and Lebanon, and also the consultations which took place in more than one country between the Al-Asad regime and the Israeli envoys in America, Nairobi, Geneva, and elswhere.

PLO's Milhim Criticizes Front

JN281348 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 18

[Tawfiq 'Abid dispatch]

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* — Muhammad Milhim, director of the occupied homeland department and PLO Executive Committee member, has said that creating new fronts amid the circles of the Palestinian people serves our people's enemies who failed to liquidate the Palestinian people's legitimate organization by military power. Replying to a question by *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, he said that forming a new alliance or front that aims to attack the PLO's legitimate frameworks will intensify divisions. He added that it would be preferable if these parties, and others, resort to the democratic dialogue that they have talked about since the PLO's establishment.

In his statement, Milhim explained: There is nothing to lose from dialogue, but the loss will be grave if this door is closed and an atmosphere of fragmentations and divisions prevails — divisions that directly or indirectly fulfill the objectives of imperialism and Zionism, the two major enemies of the Palestinian people.

He said: They have seen and heard what happened when the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee statements were issued. These statement indicate utmost adherence to the PLO's basic principles.

He added that the entire world was acquainted with the articles of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian draft action plan, including its commitment to fulfilling the Palestinian people's major objectives and building a healthy nucleus for Arab action on all levels in order to keep our cause alive and active.

Milhim called on all Palestinians wherever they are to move in the service of the cause by all means possible, whether they are individuals, groups, or organizations.

He said: Not one inch of the homeland will be liberated if a group of us begins attacking other groups or if we become involved in a process aimed at distracting us from our people's major objectives.

Milhim affirmed that the rumors about the formation of a Palestinian delegation for negotiations are completely baseless and that this subject was not discussed among the PLO departments or in the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue committee.

Milhim explained propagating a list of the names of those who will represent the PLO in forthcoming negotiations is aimed at spreading seeds of suspicion among the sons of our people and to deepen the divisions by suggesting that there is something which the United States or the Zionist entity is offering.

He said: We know Zionism and the U.S. policy well, but if some of our brothers are under the illusion that the United States or the entity's state has changed its stands, then this is complete ignorance.

Milhim added: Anyone that knows Zionism, lives under its occupation, knows the U.S. policy, and knows the extent of this policy's readiness to respond to the Palestinian people's demands and inalienable rights will not run after a mirage and illusions.

He said: With the approach of Land Day and the escalation of our people's suffering in the occupied homeland, we appeal to those who announced the so-called Salvation Front not to give our people's enemies this opportunity and to return to democratic dialogue through legitimate frameworks and institutions. Have mercy on this people, on those in prison, and on the sacredness of Land Day.

Milhim concluded his statement saying: Our people will win despite what is plotted against them.

Jordan Palestinians Denounce Front

JN281951 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The representatives of all sectors of the Palestinian masses in Jordan issued the following statement of condemnation and denunciation of the announcement in Damascus of the formation of the so-called the National Salvation Front:

We, the Palestinian masses in the refugee camps and all parts of Jordan, the representatives of popular organizations, students, teachers, workers, doctors, engineers, and lawyers voice strong denunciation of the new conspiracy by the PLO's enemies and the conspirators against our people, their history, and struggle. We denounce what was recently announced at the formation of the so-called Palestine National Salvation Front in Damascus. This front was created through the support of the Syrian regime and its organs in order to liquidate the organization and its legitimate leadership by fragmenting it and by striking at its entrenched national unity. The PLO has embodied this throughout 18 years of heroic struggle and grave sacrifices, the latest of which was the legendary epic of steadfastness during the invasion of Lebanon.

We voice our condemnation of what was announced in Damascus. We also voice absolute adherence to the PLO and its legitimate leadership, headed by brother struggler Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman. We also declare that what was agreed upon during the recent 17th PNC session represents Palestinian unanimity, which we support and rally around. We also affirm commitment to the objectives of our national struggle. We affirm our conviction in the Palestinian leadership's steps to serve our people, to achieve their national aspirations, and to bolster their struggle march on the basis of a strong national unity that is hostile to the designs aimed at undermining our people's steadfastness inside and outside the occupied homeland and that opposes the conspiracies aimed at encroaching upon our independent national decisonmaking, which we insist on and to which we adhere.

The Palestinian masses and the representatives of popular and trade union bodies affirm their rejection of this suspect organization, which is linked to the Syrian regime's organs. They regard it as a cheap conspiracy doomed to certain failure, just as all the previous conspiracies which this regime had organized. The credit goes to the extensive popular support of all our people, inside and outside the occupied homeland and in the diaspora, for the PLO under brother struggler Abu 'Ammar.

PLF Denies Joining Front

JN281857 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The Palestine Liberation Front [PLF] has denied that it has participated in the so-called National Salvation Front, the formation of which was recently announced in Damascus. In a statement transmitted by WAFA, a spokesman for the front's general secretariat affirmed the PLF's complete adherence to the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative. He called on all Palestinian factions to heal the rift and achieve Palestinian national unity, which is capable of protecting the Palestinian people's struggle and attaining their aspriations.

Al-Wazir on Syrian Attempt To Blow Up PLO Office

JN281929 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said that British authorities foiled an attempt sponsored by the Syrian regime to blow up the PLO office in London. Brother Abu Jihad added that the organization informed Scotland Yard of their identities and that this police force later arrested four of them. However, this police force allowed them to leave British territory because they possessed diplomatic passports.

Joint Forces Shoot Down Israeli Helicopter

JN281717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces are continuing to escalate their armed operations against the personnel and vehicles of the Zionist occupation forces and their agents in southern Lebanon. In a daring operation, the joint forces heroes have shot down a Zionist helicopter which tried to raid Al-Qa'qa'iyah near Al-Qasimiyah bridge in southern Lebanon. The joint forces captured one crew member, who was alive after being shot down.

The heroes of the joint forces also launched a machinegun and rocket attack against a Zionist military patrol on the Dayr Qanun-Al-Nahr-Ma'rud Road in southern Lebanon. Three half-tracks were destroyed and all of their occupants were either killed or wounded in the attack. The joint forces heroes used katyusha rockets to shell a Zionist military position in Jull al-Bahr in Tyre District. The Zionist position received direct hits and all of the Zionist soldiers in it were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operations, but did not mention his losses. He said that his forces besieged the scenes of the operations, carried out extensive search campaigns, and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the joint forces heroes, who withdrew safely to base.

Arab League Ministerial Council Ends 83d Session

Support for Lebanon, Iraq

LD290052 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Tunis, 28 mar (SPA) — The Arab League Council ended its 83d session on Thursday 28 March 1985. The session lasted 4 days under the chairmanship of Shaykh 'Abdallah Rashid al-Nu'aymi, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and in the presence of Mr Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League. During this session, held on the eve of the League's 5th decade, the council discussed, in the presence of a large number of foreign ministers, several subjects relating to current Arab issues and to Arab international relations. In the domain of Arab

affairs the council dealt primarily with: the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, western Al-Biqa' and Rashaya, as well as the acts of repression against the inhabitants of these regions; and the activity of the 7-man committee charged with following up the development of the Iraq-Iran war.

With regard to the first subject, the council did not content itself with denouncing what Israel is perpetrating in the south, but it has decided to offer material support to strengthen Lebanese national resistance; to hold a week of solidarity with southern Lebanon in all the Arab states; and to further back up the diplomatic and information moves made by the Lebanese Government at international forums to secure the withdrawal of the Zionist entity from Lebanese territory.

The council has also discussed what the situation in Lebanon requires in the way of a unified Arab stand to further offer the necessary financial help to strengthen popular resistance to occupation and to resume the reconstruction march under the umbrella of national concord.

As for the war between Iraq and Iran, the council has familiarized itself with the activity of the 7-man commission regarding its meetings since being set up in March 1984 and its moves at the international level.

Proceeding from an eagerness to step up efforts to find a just and negotiated solution to the conflict, and out of the belief of all the council member states that peace alone is likely to save the two countries from destruction and secure a better future for their relations and for the region, the council has decided to invite the 7-man commission to continue its work. It has also reiterated the full solidarity of the member states with Iraq in the legitimate defense of its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. It has also stressed the need to exert more effort to put a quick end to the fighting and to embark on negotiations to attain a peaceful, just, and legitimate solution.

On the Arab-Israeli conflict, the council discussed the practices of the Zionist occupying authorities against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories and their continuous attempts to seize their wealth and confiscate their land, build settlements on this land, destroy homes and vacate the compatriots from their land, to arrest and torture them, and to destroy their educational institutions. Among these practices is the announced project to build a road network in the West Bank 555 kms long, which will involve confiscating 1,000 dunam [1 dunam equals 1,000 square meters] of the occupied territories and will harm 20 Palestinian villages and towns, in addition to depriving these villages and towns of their agricultural and grazing lands. The Arab League Council took a decision to refer this subject to the Arab group at the United Nations so that the appropriate measures will be taken in the UN to protect the national rights of the Palestinian people and their natural resources.

The council also discussed the declarations made by UNRWA about repeated budget deficits and the attempts to reduce essential services for Palestinian refugees. The council passed a resolution to set up a committee to study the position of the agency and to consider what should be done to insure the continuity of its future activities. The committee is to submit a report about its work to a forthcoming session of the council. As to the immigration of Jews to the Zionist state and to occupied Arab territories, the council warned of the dangers of the implications arising from the Jewish immigration operations, including the Falashas, and it condemned all the parties which are working or planning for their immigration to the Zionist state and to the occupied Arab territories.

The council has asked the secretary general to follow up the subject as he sees fit, find out the facts, and submit a report to the Arab League council at the next meeting.

The council also discussed a number of topics connected with Arab international relations.

In the framework of Arab-African cooperation and Arab-African relations, the council renewed the Arab states' commitment to the aims and principles of Arab-African cooperation and has stressed its keenness to consolidate and support the course of this cooperation.

Within this framework the council discussed the preparations for convening the first session of the Arab-African ministerial conference which will be held in Tripoli in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the middle of next month.

On the other hand, the council discussed the crisis being experienced by certain African countries as a result of drought and famine and approved certain important measures to affirm the solidarity of the Arab states with their sister African states. Within this framework the council has approved the formation of an Arab Emergency Committee, under the chairmanship of the secretary general, to follow up developments in this crisis and to coordinate the Arab assistance and collect information about the aid given by Arab states, organizations, or bodies.

Furthermore the council discussed the development of the question of liberation in southern Africa. It asserted anew the Arab commitment to condemn and oppose the racist aggressive policy of South Africa. It demanded the need to expedite implementation of the UN resolution regarding the independence of Namibia. It condemned the racist massacres committed recently by the South African regime.

Regarding Arab relations with the EEC, the council expressed the need to develop the European stance toward the Arab cause, since this is linked to and affects Arab-European relations both on the bilateral and collective level.

The council discussed with interest the reflections of the new laws which the United States intends to issue to combat what it called terrorism. In this respect the council called on the Boycott Office to study these laws and discuss the means of confronting them.

The council discussed the stances of the states toward UNESCO and referred to the negative reflections on the continuous withdrawal of certain major countries from the organization. The council called for holding contacts with other regional groups to back this organization. It reasserted its support for this organization and its appreciation of its humanitarian and educational role.

Morocco Threatens Withdrawal

LD281552 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1513 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Tunis, 28 Mar (KUNA) — Morocco threatened today to withdraw from the Arab League if the Arab group accepts the SDAR's membership into the African group on the Arab-African committee which will convene in Tripoli, Libya, at foreign ministers' level in April. Mohamed Tazi, chief Moroccan delegate to the 83d session of the Arab League Council, which is meeting in Tunisia, said during the discussion of Arab participation in the meetings of the committee within the sphere of Arab-African coperation, that his country "under no conditions whatsoever can accept the SDAR's participation in the meetings of the said committee, even within the African group." Tazi affirmed that Morocco will withdraw from the Arab League if the Arab group approves the SDAR's participation in whatever form in the meetings of the Arab-African ministerial committee because this would mean official recognition of its existence.

Thereupon the heads of delegations to the Arab League Council held a closed session during which it was decided to postpone the SDAR's participation in the meeting.

KUWAIT

SFRY Defense Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

LD281312 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1453 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 27 Mar (KUNA) — The Yugoslav minister of defense, Admiral Branko Mamula, today left the country at the end of a 3-day official visit during which he had talks with the Kuwaiti officials.

He was seen off at the airport by the minister of defense, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah; the chief of the General Staff, Major General 'Abdallah Farraj Ghanim; the under secretary of the Ministry of Defense, 'Abd al-Razaq al-Khamis; the assistant secretary of the Ministry of Defense, Faysal al-Dawud; the Yugoslav ambassador to Kuwait; and a number of the Kuwaiti Army officers.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM Views U.S. Policy on Mideast

GF281544 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 28 Mar (WAKH) — Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* Thursday affirmed that the United States is not keen to reach a settlement in the Middle East as long as its interests there are preserved.

Commenting on a recent statement by PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim, who said that the United States has proved that it doesn't want peace and that's why it has not responded to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement because it wants to force the PLO to accept the Security Council Resolution No 242, the paper wondered why the United States, which deals with the realities in light of its interests, should give the Arabs and the Palestinians any concession. As long as the Arab realities are as they are now, we can never expect a positive American stance, and those who have some hope are living in the world of imagination, the paper went on.

The paper pointed out that the Arabs have made all concessions to the United States to the extent that the latter doesn't have any respect for them any more. The United States considers the Arabs defeated and it does not offer them more than the defeated deserve. The U.S. claims of morals, values and justice are merely void slogans while destruction of the world is its real goal.

OMAN

Sultan on Cairo Visit, Relations With PDRY

NC281636 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) — Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has announced that he will begin an official 4-day visit to Egypt on 26 April. During this visit he will join President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn at the inauguration of the new ferry boat service between the Jordanian port of Aqaba and the Egyptian port of Nuwaybi'.

In an interview with the Cairo magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, excerpts of which will be published in its Friday edition, Sultan Qabus said that he expects a tripartite summit meeting to be held which would include his majesty, President Mubarak, and King Husayn. Sultan Qabus expressed his pleasure at being able to visit Egypt during the festivities marking the return of the Sinai, following the immortal battles waged by the Egyptian Armed Forces in the glorious October of 1973.

Sultan Qabus said that the time has come for restoring diplomatic relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY in the wake of dialogue which has continued between them for 10 years. He expected that this will take place no later than April.

AL-MUSAWWAR noted that it will publish the text of the interview which Sultan Qabus gave to chief editor Makram Muhammad Ahmad in its next edition.

Embassy Spokesman in Kuwait on Military Maneuvers

LD281739 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1646 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Mar (KUNA) — The Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Kuwait denied Kuwaiti press interpretation of the objectives of the land and air military maneuvers which the forces of the Sultanate will hold at the beginning of next month.

An Omani Embassy spokesman told KUNA today that "the Sultanate of Oman, which bases its policy on mutual respect and good neighborliness, wishes to affirm that it does not feel any threat or concern from either Iran or the PDRY, and that it works hard and sincerely with all its neighbors for the establishment of security and stability in the region."

The spokesman added that "the Sultanate and the sisterly PDRY exert sincere efforts to build and develop relations between them based on the strong and firm principles embodied in the policy Oman pursues toward its sister countries and friendly countries."

The spokesman affirmed that interpretations during the past 2 days by some Kuwaiti papers of the statements by assistant chief of staff for defense operations of the Omani Armed Forces concerning the "Ra'd" maneuvers are incompatible with the true objectives of these maneuvers.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Addresses Conference of Businessmen

LD281030 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2047 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Speech by King Fahd to the second conference of Saudi businessmen in Riyadh on 26 March — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, prayers and salutations on the most honorable of prophets, our prophet Muhammad, on all his kinsmen and companions. On this blessed night it gives me great pleasure to meet with a so many of my brother citizens from all over the country who have come to Riyadh to a meeting which, God willing, will be constructive and useful for the national economy and related areas.

I can not add anything to what was mentioned by Brother Sulayman [words indistinct] and his excellency the minister of trade in their clear statements on the main objectives of our economic community. First, I wish all success in trade, construction, and other practical and positive activities in our dear country, activities leading to the supreme objective, although what we have achieved over 20 years is ideal in relation to the development of other nations.

Perhaps it will be said that I or others exaggerate this development, or that the state did something [words indistinct] and so did the citizens. But those who have visited the Kingdom 10 years ago and again recently — statesmen, economists, planners, and politicians — have borne witness to this. They have written a great deal on the topic. The latest book to reach me, about 2 months ago, came from American and European businessmen who paid ordinary visits to all parts of the country. They were given the means to visit all the places they wanted. I received books from them. The latest is from a group in the United States. This group said that the development found in all the facilities in the Kingdom [words indistinct] could have taken 100 years, but what they saw accomplished in a shorter span of time was astonishing, indicating that the Saudi state and citizens have united [words indistinct] these good actions forward.

If I may repeat what I mentioned during the budget speech I gave before the Council of Ministers and what you have also heard from many of the ministers on the economy and development or other projects: Naturally we do not think we have reached the end, but I believe that we are building on firm foundations. Luckily, thanks be to God, and this is due to God, we did not need money from anyone to may build our country. Also luckily the chance which became available a few years ago was fully exploited when the Kingdom's production neared 10 million. [sentence as heard] This period was exploited and the big projects which we see today were built. This was a constructive, successful, and useful operation. but our country, as you know, is vast; no matter how much has been done, more is needed. I can say that the main projects were completed. Yet we shall not stop, God willing. We shall march forward with firm steps and keep building, to make it all complete.

As to the oil situation, exports declined to about 4 million barrels a day. We hope that soon production will increase and the market will require more. This is, of course, subject to market demands. Certainly the state seriously believes that we should rely, after God, only on ourselves, and then on other resources. Our country is, thank God, rich with all the other resources.

Among the most important achievements in my eyes is that of the state and the citizens together in agriculture. We reached a very good level and we hope to complete this infrastructure in relation to agriculture of all types.

There are many other matters, such as the completion of roads, building hospitals, electrification, and telephone systems. It can be said that the Kingdom started from scratch in these cases, and we have achieved a great deal in a relatively short period. Many of the requirements of life [words indistinct] but can we reach all that we want or not. We must always proceed reasonably and rationally without haste, after thorough study of our projected goals, of their usefulness and feasibility, of deadlines, and of the most productive means to achieve them. Then we must be aware of the benefits as a government and people at all levels, to reach our stated objectives.

Naturally, among the things of which the Kingdom is very proud, thanks be to God, is the security, stability, and freedom which stems from the Islamic belief in freedom for all, freedom of the individual. Guaranteeing freedom for the citizen is basic to building society. I do not believe that there is any citizen who feels that his freedom is limited in his public or personal behavior unless he deviates from the Islamic belief. We are asked, as a government and people, to act as God has ordered. The Islamic belief, thanks be to God, is the foundation and rule, and shows us what is good and orders us away from evil. We do not need to copy from any other regime in the world except for new developments in science, technology, agriculture, industry and the like — which theIslamic belief allows, rather completely [words indistinct] them. Thus the basic principle exists [words indistinct] and we must always stop at what is different from the Islamic belief and totally reject it. This is the basic principle which has guided this country, government, and people from ancient times until today, and it shall ever be so, God willing.

Some brothers have asked about certain matters and it gives me pleasure to answer them as far as I can. I was pleased to see that the agenda brings together many brother ministers and no doubt the chambers of commerce will take advantage of this to talk to them openly and discuss important matters in the interest of Saudi citizens. I do not doubt that the chambers of commerce and officials in the states have the same goals, but discussion is what always highlights the need for action.

For instance, there is a question here on the future of the contracting sector. During the first and second development plans, the assistance of many foreign contractors was sought to implement our ambitious development plans. During these years the Saudi contracting sector grew greatly and huge national capital was invested in it. Technical and administrative cadres developed. Yet this sector is one of the important sectors in the national economy which is at present suffering from stagnation. a reduction in government expenditure is clearly a result of the decline in oil revenues and the completion of the biggest number of projects in the infrastructure. The question I am asked is: Do you not see that there is a need for this state to back this vital sector?

In fact, I hope it is clear that the state's main task is to support citizens in all walks of life, whether businessmen or others. I do not think there is a problem with relations, or that expenditure was greater in the past and is now possibly less. [sentence as heard] You probably share the opinion that there was a time when the state spent hundreds of thousands of millions, as I have said before, when we had the resources. But even if the resources were available now, as in the past, is it reasonable for the state to spend hundreds of thousands of millions without any criteria or standards? I think this is what is being requested. Thus, we must adjust government, businessmen, and citizens to the present conditions because expenditure without justification or principles could be considered as squandering. The international community might find this objectionable.

We have heard that in some states [words indistinct] spent, but they spend without any order or consideration and the result achieved was the oopposite to what they wanted. As for the [words indistinct] citizens or businessmen, I think this is one of the most important and among the best duties, and the state welcomes businessmen of all kinds. And on the basis of this meeting and the meetings which [words indistinct] will discuss these matters. State officials will discuss many matters with you as businessmen. And it also pleases me that at the end of the meeting and of the discussion you will reach a conclusion useful and constructive to all citizens and to you as businessmen. One likes to hear that there is a discussion which leads to results. But I want to take part in the discussions as far as I can.

There are many businessmen and men with capital who have invested their money abroad. I do not object to the investment of Saudi capital abroad in friendly countries but, since my country is developing and progressing regularly, I prefer to invest my capital in my homeland. And if my homeland no longer needs it I can invest my capital in another friendly country. I think this is one of the duties of businessmen whom God has graced with much wealth. They now have thousands of millions and their first objective should be to invest this capital in their homeland. I do not say this to limit freedom. No. We follow a principle which we will maintain: Man is free in his behavior and free in his capital and there are no limitations or restrictions at all. but since I am taking part in this conference I must say these things. I think some of the brothers who invested their money abroad perhaps wanted to enhance the Kingdom's reputation, to show that the Kingdom and its men and capital have contributed to other societies. This is good, but I prefer to invest my money as a citizen where my capital came from. It came from God, then from this country, and from the good actions of the state which has created capital for all the citizens, each according to his ability.

We all know that taxes are imposed on any investment, especially in Europe or other countries. I think we all know the taxes that art imposed in some other countries. Sometimes, after a few years, investors wish to pay [words indistinct] and save himself. Many countries [words indistinct] have regulations which were published openly, and I do not want to name Saudi funds which went out and whose owners have not been able to take them out of those countries — they have not been able to benefit from them. [words indistinct] thus, as I am in a country like Saudi Arabia which has freedom and real democracy, invest my capital and do what I want with it without restrictions or obstructions, why should I invest my money abroad other than for special reasons? For instance, it is possible that a state may set up an investment fund and a Saudi citizen may participate in it. There is nothing wrong with this. On the contrary, I encourage it if it [words indistinct] my country and homeland. I am not addressing myself to particular individual, but I hear, like you, that there is Saudi capital which has gone forever. All I hope is that we will rally together as state and citizens to invest our capital in our country which has no restrictions and which does not try to know the financial worth of a person. On the contrary, there is absolute freedom without any restriction.

I think everyone hopes he can invest in Saudi Arabia — I mean non-Saudis. But the government does not wish this while there is national capital waiting to be invested in our own country. I do think that anyone who invested his capital in the Kingdom had benefited from it. Of course we cannot look back too many years, to when prosperity was in its infancy. Some people, for instance, established projects which cost tens of millions. In certain conditions or at certain times this brought him a yield of 50 percent, or even 100 percent. But these were extraordinary conditions, chances which became available to those whom God wanted to enrich, and then they were over.

I do not think my capital should bring me 50 percent a year. If it produces a good income and a profit, that is all that is asked for. There are no restrictions, God willing, on a citizen who wants to invest his capital at home.

If stagnation occurs I think it is natural and we should adapt to it. However, stagnation does not mean collapse or losing ground. You have all heard that the projects in the budget are still there and going ahead to the tune of billions of riyals, and projects that will be realized this year are worth some 45 billions. I think that there is no state that has looked after itself and wisely set up and balanced its budget in one way or another as your government has, exerting all possible efforts. We have never paid a .ntion to anyone who says the Kingdom's economy has collapsed, that the economy and the state have gone bankrupt, and so forth. We pay no attention because facts speak for themselves. We all know that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its government have never said anything but the truth. This may be the practice in some states, but I think that this is neither useful nor constructive. A citizen should be happy to learn the facts about his income and production.

Adapting to the situation in which we find ourselves [words indistinct] — this the first question from a brother. Do you not think that there is a need for the state to strengthen this vital sector? I have said that the discussions that will take place this evening, or tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow, will illuminate the road. I believe that a group of ministers present — as I have noted in the agenda — will be speaking, together with under secretaries and officials. But the primary desire is to define the way or method of backing businessmen so they can maintain their strength and enthusiasm and the prosperity of their homeland.

Here is another question: Is it not time for us to restrict Saudi entrepreneurs to offers submitted by the state, solely because all facts point out to the capability of Saudi companies to fulfill projects, whatever their nature and size?

I think [words indistinct] that the state is very pleased that we are self-sufficient, that we do not need foreign companies to work with us, and that we are able now to do without foreign companies or foreign know-how. [applause] The brothers have not allowed me to finish what I was saying. I want to tell businessmen — and these words are quite relevant — that we must not show undue haste about believing that we have reached integration. Integration is very difficult, and it is not at all (?painful) to have foreign companies work with us when they have a high level of knowledge and science.

The citizen [words indistinct]. First, he looks at the quality of our own industry and that of our production. If this industry and the quality are extremely good, then I think that the duty of the state

is to impose restrictions and high excise duties on imports from abroad, so we benefit from local production only. [applause] The state should impose restrictions and high excise duties to help market our own local production. But extremely good quality is required, because you must agree that we have here some 300 or 500 people who think that citizens cannot be forced to buy products that are not of good quality, just because they have been manufactured at home. I do not think that a consumer ever accepts a very low quality products, but he will fully accept a very good quality product.

I see no harm in our benefiting from foreign know-how, nor do I see any harm in working with foreign companies if they are given a specific rate and specific limits. But when there is self-sufficiency in manpower and production output then [words indistinct]. Besides, I think any one of the brothers here who has toured Europe and America, or anywhere, has seen that the United States still imports from Japan, Britain, and everywhere. It does not say: It is shameful for the United States to import. Therefore, as far as the question of imports is concerned I do not say that one should never import, but rather that the state must impose restrictions on industrial products imported from abroad if industry here reaches an extremely high level of quality.

If we, who materially benefit, tell the Saudi citizen that he should buy locally made products even if the latter's level of quality is not high, I think that this will be injustice. We should not compel the Saudi citizen to do that even if the customs duties on a certain brand is 100 percent — that is to say that if the price is 1 riyal and the duty on that product is another riyal while the locally-made equivalent is being marketed at half a riyal [words indistinct]. I say these words even though they may cause some bitterness. But this is what the issue should be: having our local industry provide a very high level product. The state will contribute to this and will help to achieve it. We know that there are some states which, out of patriotism, may tell their citizens that imports are totally banned and compel these citizens to buy local products. If the local products' level is not up to an acceptable standard then you are compelling the citizen to do many things. I do not think that any of my brothers agree to this. We, as government, citizens and businessmen, should work so that our industry compares favorable at the international level. Then the state should raise the customs duties so that a citizen who wants to buy an imported product will buy a locally-manufactured product. I personally and the Council of Ministers are following up on this matter.

I believe that now there are many national industries — customs duties have been raised on certain products imported from abroad in order to protect the national industry. [as heard] Customs duties shall be raised until the national industries can stand on their own feet. I hope my brothers will forgive me for speaking my own mind as I do not care much for honeyed words and I do not care much for saying what is not true; nor do I care about trivialities. I want to get to the results even if they are bitter. [applause] I would like to tell the brothers — and I do not mean just the people who have gathered here in this hall but all the people of the Kingdom — that the state will push forward its support for local industry and for helping it to compete at the international level.

It is fortunate that Saudi education capabilities have increased. It is fortunate that our universities have begun to graduate heroes at all scientific levels as well as in agriculture and industry, although these universities are quite young. It is certain, God willing, that we will arrive at the point where we can use our local industry 100 percent.

Here there is another question — the trade minister promised me that I would only have to deliver the opening speech, but then he gave me a number of questions, and I said that I would reply to them. This question concerns social security. In fact, I appreciate very much the views which have been expressed regarding social security and the foreign workers imported from abroad, as well as the problems that arise for the Saudi contractor who must bring workers from abroad.

All your views are being studied. All your complaints will be resolved because I personally am convinced of their validity. [applause] A procedure is now being prepared and studied by specialists, and all obstacles shall be eliminated, obstacles which you have noted. Perhaps these obstacles were placed at a time when there was a need for them, but praise be to God, [words indistinct]. Some brothers said something about subsidies and the funds and the like. I believe that I said in my speech at the Council of Ministers meeting on reviewing the budget that these funds will continue because they have proved their effectiveness and have been practical as far as the citizens' interest is concerned. [applause]

Another question — a very good question, in my opinion — says: What is the role of women in Saudi society? The role of Saudi women, in my opinion, is very great and should be an effective and constructive one within the limits of our Islamic Shari'a. In this country we have been endowed, with the grace of God, with the service of the two holy places. Although there are Islamic states which follow the Islamic faith in spirit and letter, the Kingdom has its own specific circumstances to which we should adhere. We should only do what has been allowed according to the Islamic Shari'a. What the Islamic faith permits women to do will be the basis from which Saudi woman proceed; this should be in accordance with our Islamic Shari'a; it should not depart from our Islamic Shari'a.

The Islamic Shari'a allows plenty of work for women. I believe that if this is applied and defined, a woman and her guardian — father, brother, or husband — should feel comfortable. As for the fact that women work side by side with men in offices and other places in other Islamic states, I do not think there is any Saudi citizen who accepts having his wife or sister sit in the same office with another man with her face made up. If a Saudi citizen were asked to permit this, I do not think he would allow it. We do not accept this at any rate. I have mentioned that the Islamic faith has defined the role of woman in such a way that it honors women and has given them total rights. [applause]

Another question — perhaps I have covered part of it — says: Are you satisfied with Saudi businessmen and their activities at home and abroad? I have said that their activities at home are constructive and practical. Of their activities abroad, as I said earlier and of which I am still convinced: Saudi capital should be employed in the Kingdom. This is because I know that foreign

capital is used in the Kingdom. This is not to restrict the Saudi citizen at all, but it is my own view, because we pursue a definite line — the line of giving freedom of personal action, which is guaranteed, to the Saudi individual. Nobody can violate this freedom, not one little bit. We do not allow ourselves to interfere in this at all. But the advice is that we should work inside our country and use our capabilities and wealth inside our country, because this is constructive and useful. This does not stop anyone from doing constructive work in any friendly country, if the work is beneficial to the reputation of the Kingdom.

I repeat: If a Saudi citizen finds suitable and productive work which is apt to enhance the reputation of his coutnry, then he should do it. But the Saudi citizen should place his capital where he is sure he can withdraw it. He should find out whether his capital can be withdrawn. This is because I know some Saudis — many of them — who have lost their capital in the sense that they were unable to withdraw even one riyal. They even had to pay taxes on it. There are some regimes which say that freedom is guaranteed for capital, but if capitals enter [words indistinct] who can withdraw them? [applause]

I have heard, and I hope it is not true, of some cases of Saudi citizens who apply for registration for companies at the Ministry of Commerce. Naturally, since they are Saudi citizens and are trying to make use of their capital, the Ministry of Commerce grants them the registration. Then these people go and agree with a non-Saudi and register at the Ministry of Commerce that the capital was 50-50 partnership, say 1 million riyals to 1 million riyals. However, on investigation, it transpires that actually there was no Saudi capital: it is no more than ink on paper. The entire capital is foreign and the investment is totally foreign. The Saudi gets a certain percentage from the foreigner and nothing else. I hope this is not true.

Here is the minister of commerce beside me and here is the minister of industry before me and here is the minister of finance. Why, as a Saudi, should I not invest capital and take control of a company? I should not be a means for a foreigner to benefit from my homeland and exploit its good while I become like a servant — to be a nominal investor without actually doing anything. This is one of the most serious matters. I believe several such cases have been uncovered.

What can the Ministry of Trade do if a Saudi citizen comes and says, I have a partner and the capital — for instance, 10 million [currency not specified]. He will invest 5 million, and I a Saudi, will invest 5 million. Then this citizen agrees with the non-Saudi and the capital becomes 100 percent non-Saudi and of the profits — let us say 4 million — the Saudi gets 200,000-300,000. He does not work or do anything, but in name this is a Saudi investment.

I hope that we rise above such actions, as Saudis, by actually striking a partnership with a foreigner in word and deed, if we want to have such a partnership. There is nothing wrong with becoming a partner. This is the system of exploitation of foreign capital which we have, and is in force.

I wish to refer to another point. No doubt it is the government's objective to see the citizens advance several steps forward by forming contracting, road, and other companies. But there is very little use for weak companies. The government is anxious to push small companies forward. I believe that if the work is undertaken by a number of citizens and thus the company becomes strong, after a short time it will be able to compete with foreign companies. But if the work is undertaken by an individual who cannot perform the required task. [as heard] There are examples of many companies which were given limited jobs involving road works or numerous other types of work which came to a halt in the middle of construction.

We are aware of the loss of such citizens although they put forth efforts. The trouble is, these efforts were not well thought out. We must, therefore, tackle matters on the basis of studies and must rally together -- unless a person has a large amount of capital, can import equipment and get all his needs from the market, and has the necessary capabilities.

Small companies must grow, but this growth must be on the basis of firm, defined steps. The Saudi contractor must accept only contracts he can implement. He must study them. Thank God, we have Saudi citizens capable of making full studies.

I fully believe that the incentives that motivate any Saudi citizen to act are good ones: He wants to do something and I want him to achieve something in the private sector. The private sector is the basic cornerstone of the state, which cannot do everything. The task of the state, in fact, is only to direct. The task of the state is to provide loans to citizens. We have set a principle and we shall continue to pursue it. The state does not want to own anything. It wants the citizen to be the one who owns everything, so the citizen can administer hiw own affairs. we can only steer and nothing else. What does the citizen want? He wants the state to provide him with loans. But this should be in accordance with fixed norms and principles.

Time has proven that a state which intervenes in the affairs of its citizens is bound to fail in the end, its industry is bound to fail, and so is its agriculture. This leads to suppression of freedom. We do not want to suppress freedoms nor do we want citizens to fail. We want the citizens to be free according to his God-given rights.

Thus all I hope is that our actions as citizens are actions conducted within a specific and studied framework so that we do not have problems.

For example, a citizen secures a loan from the state. This loan might prove insufficient. He then seeks a loan from any establishment or a friend. After some time he is unable to settle his commitments or to pay back the loan.

I think on numerous occasions the state has fouhd itself in a critical positon. It tried to perform its duty and show sympathy toward the citizen and did all it could. This is the duty of the state. But there might be times when the state cannot pay millions in redressing errors not of its own making.

Hence, the citizen must move with firm and studied steps, and thus be able to perform his duties as a citizen, enjoying all the freedoms God bestowed upon us and the prophet Muhammad taught us. We will adhere to Islamic teachings in letter and spirit.

We must understand that this country will have neither value nor weight if we were to depart from the Islamic faith in any matter whatsoever. [applause]

I repeat once again my good wishes to the Saudi businessmen. Now I want to recall a few things. Some of the brothers who were with me at the Ministry of Education 27 years ago may remember what our situation was then; think of what it is today. It is a boon, by the grace of God. It is a great grace. We must thank our God and thank Him day and night so that grace remains with us. From just over 30,000 pupils to more than 2 million pupils. From three to four universities in the whole country to seven universities, as well as higher learning institutions, and so forth.

There is unprecedented and unlimited progress, the like of which never happened before in the world. What is the reason? The reason, as God said rightly: If you go back God, He backs you and guides your steps. This country, thanks be to God, will be on solid ground if it always adheres to the law of Muhammad and all the time everyone of us thanks God day and night.

Each one should look at himself, especially at home and his own personality. Not one of us is free of wrongdoing, Muhammad excluded, may God's prayers be upon him. But the difference is, if a person feels that he has done something wrong and retreats from it and replaces it with good deeds, God is forgiving and merciful and does not rebuke him so long as his intention is good and he goes back to his God and repents. God will secure for him paradise and much wealth.

Finally, I wish your conference success. I apologize also because I could not prepare something to say to you. I hope you will continue with your meetings in the future, and I will participate in them at any time, because in fact they are constructive. [applause]

I wish to thank brother Sulayman Layyan and the minister of commerce. But at the same time, I wish to reproach them: for each of them had prepared a speech to deliver and left me to say what I have managed to say without being prepared. [applause]

Gambian President Arrives From Sanaa 28 March

LD282158 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1605 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Jeddah, 28 Mar (SPA) — The Gambian president, Dawda Jawara, arrived in Jeddah this evening from Sanaa at the end of a visit to YAR. He was welcomed at the King 'Abd al-'Aziz International Airport in Jeddah by Salim Sunbul, Foreign Ministry director for the western region, and a number of officials.

Foreign Minister Returns From Morocco 28 March

LD282322 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2254 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 28 Mar (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, returned to Riyadh tonight from Morocco after a 2-day visit where he handed a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to His Majesty King Hassan II, the king of Morocco.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Urges Halt To Flow of Gulf Capital Abroad

GF281912 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "The Phenomenon of Outgoing Finances"]

[Text] This past week, consecutive Gulf warnings were issued by high-level financial authorities on the phenomenon of the growing flow of Gulf private capital abroad. The warning came from the UAE Central Bank manager, followed by the manager of the Qatari monetary establishment — without prior collaboration. While the echoes of these important statements by two important officials were still reverberating, the Saudi monarch yesterday called on Saudi businessmen to transfer their investments abroad back to internal investments.

This phenomenon has been growing for more than 2 years as a result of the shrinking GCC internal market because of consecutive reductions in government trusts created by shrinking oil revenues. This coincided with a noticeable increase in the interest rates of U.S. banks which formed an attractive outside factor for the Gulf capitalists and made them believe the correctness of investing in dollar deposits. What encouraged this high rate of flow was the fact that Gulf governments did not resort to imposing decisive restrictions on the money movement.

The implications carried within this undesirable phenomenon cannot be hidden. They have revealed the extent to which private sector companies can depend on government tenders which have secure returns in inflationary times. This phenomenon also has shown that the private sector has exercised reserve in becoming involved in serious and productive internal investment opportunities. It also has proved that to grant freedom to the money flow is not always a positive thing.

Among other things, this phenomenon has uncovered the shortcomings or complete lack of scheduled economic planning. If the Gulf governments are really serious about containing the phenomenon before it becomes overwhelming, they must: 1) Strengthen the authority of central banks and government financial institutions so that they can take quick corrective measures; and 2) design a development program and make government initiatives of a lucrative nature for the private sector so that it may play a positive investment role to produce benefits for itself and the national economy.

PDRY

Ethiopian Minister Makes Departure Statement

GF281420 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Comrade Hailu Yemanu, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and Ethiopian minister of industry, left Aden today following several days' visit to our country. During his visit, he held discussions with party and state officials, especially officials at the Ministry of Industry, on

bolstering industrial relations between the ministries of the two friendly countries. In a statement to ANA, Comrade Yemanu said that his discussions and meetings have produced positive and encouraging results. He pointed out that his visit has made him cognizant of our country's experiment in the field of industrialization.

He was seen off at the airport by Brother Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, and the Ethiopian ambassador in Aden, Comrade Husayn Ismail Husayn.

YAR

Further Reportage on Visit of Libyan Minister

Joint Economic Talks Begin

GF281232 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The meetings of the preparatory committee of the Libyan-Yemeni higher committee began at the central organ of planning today. The Yemeni side was led by Brother Muhammad al-Khadim al-Wajih, minister of finance, minister of development and acting head of the central planning organ. The Libyan side was led by Brother Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industry.

At the beginning of the session, the brother minister of finance welcomed the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and his accompanying delegation to their second country. He reviewed the historical relations between the two fraternal peoples, and the various aspects of cooperation between two countries and the possibility of enhancing them under the leadership of Brother President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress, and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution.

Brother Musa Abu Furaywah responded with a speech in which he expressed his thanks and appreciation for the warm reception extended to him and his accompanying delegation. He hailed the good cooperation relations between the two countries. He affirmed the need to strengthen and develop cooperation relations between the two countries in various fields for the benefit of the two peoples so as to achieve Arab unity. After that, the two sides discussed the agenda. They agreed to form three committees for discussing aspects of economic and technical cooperation and the fields of service, investment, and banking.

Received by Prime Minister

GF282004 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, today received Brother Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industry, who is visiting the country.

During the meeting, which was attended by Brother Muhammad al-Khadim al-Wajih, finance minister, acting minister of development and acting head of the central planning organ, they reviewed bilateral relations and areas of joint cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Diplomatic Relations With Gambia Established

GF281940 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, president of Gambia and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, and the delegation accompanying him left Sanaa today following an official 2-day visit to our country, during which he held talks with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, dealing with bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest.

At the conclusion of the Gambian president's visit to our country, the following press statement was issued: At the invitation of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, president of Gambia, made a working visit to the YAR from 27 to 28 March 1985.

During the visit, official talks were held between the two presidents dealing with bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest. The two presidents expressed their satisfaction with the fraternal atmosphere which prevailed during the talks, particularly the agreement of views which characterized them.

Out of their desire to develop and strengthen bilateral relations and the ties of fraternity and friendship between the two countries, the two sides have agreed to establish diplomatic relations between the YAR and Gambia at the ambassadorial level as of Thursday, 28 March 1985.

'Abd al-Majid Underlines Support for Lebanon

NC281612 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today met with Ambassador 'Abd al-Rahman al-Sulh, chief the Lebanese interest section in Cairo. 'Abd al-Majid underlined Egypt's support for the legitimate Government in Lebanon and its eagerness that Lebanese sovereignty prevail in all parts of Lebanon. The Lebanese ambassador explained the recent developments in Lebanon.

'Abd al-Majid Meets With British Ambassador

NC281443 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has underlined the importance of the EEC states' support for the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement in order to bolster the peace efforts and enable the Palestinian people to determine their fate and regain their legitimate rights.

This came during 'Abd al-Majid's meeting with the British ambassador in Cairo. The ambassador affirmed his government's full support for President Mubarak's proposals on the establishment of a just peace in the Middle Eastern area. He said that during the meetings of the EC states which began in Brussels today, the British Government will seek support for the peace process in the area.

Detainees in Book Fair Demonstration Released

NC281646 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1625 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) — Councillor Raja'i al-'Arabi, the public attorney for the state security prosecution public attorney, has issued a decision releasing the detainees who were remanded for demonstrating last Friday at the Cairo International Book Fair in protest over Israel's participation. This decision applies to 24 people and include Muhammad 'Abd al-Quddus, Press Syndicate Council member; and Majdi Ahmad Husayn, journalist for the newspaper *AL-SHA'B*.

Relations With U.S., Soviet Union Examined

PM281711 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 27 Mar-2 Apr 85 pp 6-8

['Imad al-Din Adib report: "Mubarak Uses the Soviet Card To Move Reagan"]

[Excerpts] Last week several U.S. Embassy and AID officials in Cairo gave dinner parties and invited the Cairo elite, including decisionmakers, writers, and businessmen. For the first time since the restoration of U.S.-Egyptian relations these parties were an utter failure. Most invited ministers, writers, and businessmen sent their regrets. Even those who attended "turned these parties into something akin to a condolence wake." The killer was the U.S. Administration, the victim was the U.S. aid to Egypt, and the condolences were over the fact that "Egypt had banked on President Reagan's administration."

The message reaching every U.S. official and ordinary citizen in Egypt was that the Egyptian capital, from the president of the Republic to the newspaper boys in Cairo's crowded streets, was unhappy about the results of President Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington.

Why did President Mubarak, immediately after his return from his U.S. and European tour, go personally to the Soviet Embassy 17 March, in the company of Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, to express condolences over the death of Soviet leader Chernenko?

What attracted observers' attention more than the President's visit to the Soviet Embassy — which incidentally was his first visit to that embassy since he assumed power, he did not visit the embassy when former President Andropov died — was that he made a point of telling reporters and foreign correspondents after visiting the Soviet Embassy that "If I was not engaged in my U.S. visit program I would have gone directly to Moscow to convey my condolences."

AL-MAJALLAH has learned that President Mubarak's 1-hour meeting with Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Belonogov in the Soviet Embassy was extremely important for the following four reasons:

1. The Egyptian president asked the Soviet ambassador, who was previously in charge of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Planning Department — one of the Foreign Ministry's most important departments — to pass an urgent oral message to Soviet President [as published] Gorbachev calling for the initiation of a more positive phase in Egyptian-Soviet relations.

2. The Egyptian president explained to the Soviet ambassador the results of his U.S. and European tour and his efforts regarding the need for a U.S.-Palestinian dialogue.

3. The Egyptian president emphasized to the Soviet ambassador that neither he personally nor his country rejects the formula for an international peace conference on the Middle East and that such a conference requires a more active Soviet role. He asked that this view be conveyed to Soviet leader Gorbachev.

4. The Egyptian president stressed that what he heard from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and FRG Chancellor Kohl about Soviet leader Gorbachev confirms that the new Soviet leader is a practical, realistic, open, and firm man who wants to reactivate the issues shelved as a result of U.S.-Soviet disagreement.

On bilateral relations between the two countries, the Egyptian president showed great enthusiasm for Egyptian-Soviet trade, the volume of which was 500 million Egyptian pounds at the end of last year.

That leaves one unresolved issue in the file of Egyptian-Soviet relations, namely the military debts of R3.85 billion ($1 is equal to R0.7). The interest on these debts since Egypt stopped repayment has reached R321 million. *AL-MAJALLAH*'s sources confirm that this issue will be resolved, particularly following Egyptian Defense Minister Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu

Ghazalah's statement that his country was interested in buying spare parts from Moscow for the Soviet arms used by the Egyptian Army.

The Egyptian president's meeting with over 40 British members of Parliament in London during his visit to Britain this month was one occasion when the ambiguity of his political thinking was dispelled.

President Mubarak said: "What the U.S. Administration did was to cut our requests by more than half." Then he asked the British parliamentarians: "Why should Israel get everything it asks of the United States, without any cuts?"

He added: "When we request economic aid from the United States we do not beg. We ask for the rights of the Egyptian people who suffered in many wars during which the U.S. Administration supported Israel against us."

On the question of U.S. negotiations with the Palestinians and the Jordanians, the Egyptian president said that any U.S. rejection of dialogue with the Palestinians would lock the Arab region into a circle of violence and would be extremely detrimental to U.S. interests.

The Palestinian view was expressed by Hasan 'Abd al-Rahman, the spokesman of the Palestinian Information Office in Washington, who is an important man these days because of his vital liaison between various Arab and U.S. circles. In a telephone interview with *Al-MAJALLAH* he said: "I consider the question of Palestinian representation to be as important as Palestinian national rights."

He added: "My information confirms that the U.S. position is still negative and that President Reagan's administration is trying to give the impression that there is some movement when actually there is no sign of any serious new U.S. move."

In reply to a question about the names mentioned in the U.S. press as possible members of the Palestinian delegation, Hasan 'Abd al-Rahman said: "We want the PLO to be received as the sole legitimate representative and to be represented by Palestinians whose patriotism is not in doubt."

He added: "We do not want the Palestinians to be received in their individual capacity. We want Palestinians delegated by the PLO or acting as PLO representatives."

Mubarak's Praise of Reagan in Washington Assailed

PM281415 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 20 Mar 85 p 5

[Salah 'Isa article: "The Disgrace"]

[Text] Before the world's cameras, with worldwide communications satellites listening in, and within the sight and hearing of the Egyptians, the Arabs, and the world, President Mubarak, addressing President Reagan after the session of talks between them, said: I believe that there is no leader more capable than you of playing a historic role and bringing to fruition a holy mission in the Middle East; Destiny has chosen you to lead this great nation at a time when a golden opportunity for peace is available.

Some Arabs, and some Egyptians as well, had thought that the time of addressing the U.S. presidents in this manner had gone for good and had been buried under the platform [reference to Al-Sadat's assassination]. They thought that the age of believing that White House gods have holy missions in the Middle East had proved to be far too big a deception not to be perceived by eyes that can see. They were probably astonished because President Mubarak who, since he took office, has avoided using such exaggerated expressions — in form at least — out of the desire to preserve what is left of the dignity that Al-Sadat spilled at the feet of U.S. presidents from Nixon to Reagan, had used unsuitable words in an unsuitable condition after failed talks in which he obtained nothing and got neither peace nor dollars.

Because the Egyptian Arabs and non-Egyptian Arabs remember a long record of the achievements of the U.S. historic role in the Middle East and because the holy missions of U.S. presidents from Roosevelt and Wilson to Reagan are branded with steel, fire, Phantoms, and Skyhawks, it is impolite for a writer to remind the head of the biggest Arab state of this fact. This might suggest that he does not know what the simplest man in the country knows.

However, there is an incident of which President Mubarak should be reminded; because of his preoccupation with President Reagan and delivering his enthusiastic speech before him and because it happened on the same day, he was unable to follow this incident.

While the president was discussing with Reagan the question of peace, the IDF tanks were storming Al-Zrariyah village in southern Lebanon, killing villagers, destroying houses, and crushing bodies under the tracks of U.S.-made tanks. When his excellence was anointing Reagan before the world's cameras and its space satellites as a leader who is most capable of playing a historical role, granting him a holy title, and appealing to him to carry out a holy mission in the Middle East, the U.S. UN representative at the Security Council was using the veto against a Lebanese draft resolution condemning the IDF actions and repressive measures against the inhabitants of the south. A female U.S. citizen , commenting on the veto of her country and her President, then shouted: What a disgrace!

Do we not have the right, Mr President, to shout the same?

I believe we do.

President Vows To Shell Targets 'Deep Inside Iran'

JN281844 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn delivered at a popular gathering in Al-Anbar Governorate on 28 March — recorded]

[Text] It has been a long time since we last saw the Al-Ramadi people. [Applause] O people of the Al-Ramadi and Al-Anbar, just as your kinfok would say: How are you managing under all the difficult circumstances? [Applause] Brothers, I know that on such an occasion it is difficult to talk you in detail about everything. However, the most important thing about this meeting is to see that you are doing very well in light of the Armed Forces' great victories against the aggressors. [Applause] Please do not interrupt me, so that I can speak to you. Because if you keep interrupting me, I will be like a car that cannot pick up speed. [Applause]

Let me talk to you for awhile. It has been 5 years since the war erupted. I saw you before the start of the war and saw you at an early stage of the war. The faces that I see now harbor more hope than in previous years. [Applause] The enemies have always given the Iranian regime's rulers, who are also among the enemies, the impression that the years will tire the Iraqis. However, they could not give the correct impression. They ask themselves: Will those who built Babylon ever tire? Will those who built the Al-Anbar mosque ever tire? [Applause] Will those who built mosques in Nineveh, Sumer, and everywhere ever tire? Had they asked themselves: Does not building this deep-rooted civilization in Iraq mean that these people are also deep-rooted? They would have answered themselves: Yes, this is a deep-rooted people. Consequently, deep-rooted people cannot be tired by the days as long as they are right. Supporting right cannot be [word indistinct]

On every occasion, the disappointed trust the remnants of criminals in the hope of achieving some kind of a result in Iraq. Zionism, along with a number of disappointed who are called Arabs through nationality only, is using every means and method to convince the ignorant and suspect in Tehran that, if they try, this time they might achieve some result. This time they came to the marsh, as they did more than a year ago, in the hope that the defenses west of the marsh were not as strong as they were on land and elsewhere in the operational theaters. However, they could not imagine the Iraqi response when the homeland is threatened. Thus, they fell victim to miscalculation and they paid the price, part of which you saw on the television screen. They returned disappointed and defeated. Also, some of the disappointed Arab traitors gave them a number of rockets to strike at Baghdad and Kirkuk [applause] in the hope of terrorizing the experienced Iraqi people, who have been fighting them in the theater of operations for 5 years and who will not be terrified by 10, 20, or 30 rockets.

Meanwhile, they went to see their allies. Those who have been encouraging them will realize that as time passes we will bring upon them the kind of weapon that will bolster the Iraqis' will and will be favorable to the men in a manner that will protect Iraq's dignity and the homeland. [Applause] The Iranian rulers have no option other than resorting to the minimum level of reasoning [baqaya al-'aql]. Otherwise, their fate is doomed. No matter how many they thrust into battle, very few will return. Our destruction capabilities increase day after day and year after year, because the will behind such capabilities is the will of Iraqis, from the extreme north to the extreme south, and from the extreme east to the extreme west. [Applause]

Brothers, certain Arabs have given the Iranians a number of rockets. But let them see, as the saying goes. They will pay the price for this treason against the Arab nation and its principles. Now, after 5 years of the war, our stand is clear. There is no ambiguity in our stand. What we demand is to end all forms of war — on land, at sea, and in the air; to return to international borders; to allow the Iranian and Iraqi peoples to live freely in their homeland; to stop anyone's interference in domestic affairs; and to have the two countries' policies guarantee stability and peace in the region. These are our concepts. However, the Iranian rulers' concepts say that the Iraqis should not shell oil tankers. Why? Iran sells oil and purchases weapons to strike at Iraq. What will prevent us from hitting oil tankers as long as the war continues?

For humanitarian reasons, we have said: Let us stop shelling cities, despite the fact that this is now known in wars. When states begin war, then it is war. An agreement was made to this effect. When we shelled a factory, they said: The Iraqis have violated the agreement and this is why we will shell Basra. They do not want us to hit oil tankers or shell cities and factories. No, this type of war does not satisfy us. Now, we will shell their targets deep inside Iran.

Brothers, we have told you and told all Iraqis since the first weeks of the war that Iraq will achieve victory. Why have we said this? We said this because God is at the side of the Iraqis; because they are right; and because humanity supports the Iraqis because they want peace and because we defend great principles. We defend the Arabs, our honor, and peace. This is why you will achieve victory, Iraqi people. Convey our greetings to the citizens in Al-Anbar, to the old men, to the children, and to everyone. We hope to see you always proud of victory and always lofty. May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Communique No 1,787

JN281818 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Communique No 1,787 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 March 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

It is God's great victory to the brave Iraqis, who are defending a just cause, advocating peace, seeking goodness, and fighting for the sake of their territory, freedom, and the dignity of man — the Iraqis who are patient in all adversities and who are seeking the elevation of God's word against the unjust. It is a miserable defeat for the suspect Iranian rulers, the advocates of aggression and falsehood. Our fighters will follow them daily with the

strength of justice on the battlefronts, deep inside their own territory, and along the coast, directing their blows at them until they heed justice and raise the banner of complete peace.

The following are results for yesterday and today:

1. In order to mete out proper punishment to the Iranian rulers in their own homes, where they are concocting evil and sedition, our Air Force carried out a series of raids on selected targets deep inside Iran as follows:

a. At 2100 last night destructive strikes were carried out on Tehran, Qazvin, and Kashan.

b. Between 0900 and 1015 today destructive strikes were carried out on the cities of Ilam, Salehabad, Isfahan, Tabriz and also against Baneh and Marivan camps.

c. At 1745 today, destructive strikes were carried out on the cities of Ilam and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab.

After carrying out these splendid tasks, our valiant air eagles returned safely and triumphantly. God bless them and their endeavors.

2. In implementation of our established policy to deprive the criminal enemy of its oil resources, our brave air eagles carried out a successful raid on a very large maritime tagret at 1200 today. At 1545 today, our eagles augmented their assets by hitting a second target. They returned from both raids safely and triumphantly, God be praised.

3. Our Air Force continues their brave sorties pounding enemy positions and equipment in the operational sector east of Tigris, causing destruction and panic among enemy forces. The planes carried out 106 combat missions, after which the air eagles returned with their planes safely and triumphantly, God be praised.

4. The helicopter cavaliers continue to chase enemy remnants, directing powerful blows and destroying enemy positions and equipment in the operational sector east of Tigris.

The cavaliers made 130 missions today during which they destroyed and burned 14 enemy boats, 4 boats carrying medium machineguns, 1 boat carrying personnel, 2 large boats, 5 enemy ambushes, 2 rocket projectiles, and 1 medium machinegun. The helicopter cavaliers returned with their aircraft safely and triumphantly under God's care.

5. Our forward units opened fire with artillery and other weapons on enemy fortifications in the Central operational sector and succeeded in killing four of the enemy and inflicting heavy losses on enemy equipment. Fire caused by the shelling could be seen.

6. Several of our forward units opened fire on enemy positions, troop concentrations, and arms depots in the operational sector east of Basra, killing four of the enemy and destroying one 81mm mortar, one antiaircraft gun, one observation post, and two medium machineguns.

7. One of our forward units fired on enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern operational sector, destroying one machinegun emplacement and one infantry position, killing six of the enemy, and wounding others.

8. One enemy machinegun emplacement was destroyed and its personnel were killed in the Maysan operational sector.

9. The criminal enemy shelled Sayyid Sadiq, Khurman, and Mandali with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 March 1985

Tehran, Qazvin, Shiraz Raided

JN281903 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1848 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Statement by military spokesman]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our victorious leader's splendid words and sound directives are immediately incarnated by our men's powerful arms in the form of fruitful work for the sake of Iraq and of well-being love and heroic fighting in order to defeat the enemies and to collapse their hideouts on their heads.

At 1945 today, our Air Force carried out a series of destructive raids on the heart of Tehran, the capital of aggression, and the cities of Qazvin and Shiraz. After pounding their targets powerfully, the brave, loyal air eagles returned safely and triumphantly with their planes.

Let the Khomeyniite scoundrels know that our powerful strikes will continue to chase them. The whispering of Zionism and the assistance of its servants — these so-called Arabs who have never confronted an enemy but only their own peoples — will not benefit them. We will continue to depend on God, for He is the best supporter.

[Dated] 28 March 1985

Spokesman Denies Planes Downed

JN281926 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Iraq has denied that any Iraqi planes were hit during their operations inside Iran and over Tehran today. A military spokesman has made a statement to INA in which he challenged the Iranian rulers to provide proof of that. The spokesman confirmed that all Iraqi fighters returned safely to their bases after carrying out their combat missions.

IPU Delegate Accuses Iran of Violating Agreement

JN281051 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Lome, 28 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi National Assembly delegation to the 73d IPU conference in Lome has held Iranian rulers responsible for the violation of an agreement signed

between Iraq and Iran on 12 June last year on not shelling civilian centers. In his reply to the Iranian delegate's statements, Iraq's delegation head, Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, said that Iraq abided by this agreement that was concluded under UN auspices and that the Iranian rulers have violated this agreement by shelling purely Iraqi civilian targets. Hammudi recalled the Iranian rulers' crimes of killing Iraqi POW's and referred to the report submitted by Alexander Haye, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which revealed the torture Iraqi POW's are receiving in Iranian camps.

Tariq 'Aziz Leaves for Moscow, Tokyo 28 Mar

JN281827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1808 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs, have left for Moscow on a short working visit. Tariq 'Aziz will hold talks tomorrow with Andrey Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, dealing with bilateral relations, the developments of the Iranian agression on Iraq, and issues of mutual concern.

On Monday, Tariq 'Aziz will pay an official visit to Tokyo in reply to the visit Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe paid to Iraq in August 1983. The discussion during this visit will deal with bilateral relations, the situation in the region, and the developments in the Iranian aggression on Iraq.

Cooperation Minutes Signed With Poland

JN281240 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Iraq and Poland signed minutes on cooperation in scientific and technical planning here today. The minutes were signed for Iraq by Samal Majid Faraj, planning minister; and for Poland by Manfred Gorywoda, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers and chairman of the Planning Committee. The minutes cover the exchange of expertise and training programs in the sphere of planning.

Agriculture Minister Yunis Leaves for Cairo

JN281325 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, Iraqi minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, left for Cairo at noon today at the head of a delegation on a visit to Egypt. During the visit the minister will hold talks with the Egyptian side on ways of strengthening agricultural cooperation and will become acquainted with Egypt's agricultural development.

Thai Hanged for 'Exposing Classified Information'

HK281130 Hong Kong AFP in English 0956 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Bangkok, March 28 (AFP) — Iraqi authorities have executed a Thai construction worker for spying against Baghdad, a Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman said here today.

Spokesman Sawanit Kongsiri said Thai Embassy officials in Baghdad were told yesterday that the man, Thitthai Chamroenrat [name as received], was executed by hanging on February 27. He had been arrested last year after working for several years in Iraq.

Mr. Sawanit said Iraqi authorities had said Mr. Thitthai was found guilty of exposing classified information about military activities in the sensitive war zone of Basra through articles published in Thai newspapers here.

Mr. Sawanit said the Thai Government had believed Iraqi authorities would listen to pleas made for Mr. Thitthai several times last year. Three or four unspecified countries with close ties to Iraq also had made pleas on behalf of the Thai Government in the matter.

Mr. Sawanit said Mr. Thitthai's death was a "total shcok" and "highly regrettable," but that Bangkok was unable to pursue the matter since it was against its policy to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

An estimated 25,000 Thais work in Iraq.

Renewal of UNIFIL Mandate Requested at UN

NC281718 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The Foreign Ministry today received a cable from Ambassador Rashid Fakhuri, the Lebanese permanent UN representative, saying that he has submitted an official Lebanese request for the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate to UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart asking him to circulate Lebanon's note among the members of the UN Security Council as an official document.

Birri Expects Withdrawal To End Within 2 Months

NC281458 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Minister Nabih Birri affirmed today that the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon will be completed within 1 or 2 months at the most.

He said that the reestablishment of contact lines in Beirut is a crime against the Lebanese and a great service to Israel.

It also makes the Israeli withdrawal insignificant.

Minister Birri revealed that during the recent meeting held in Bikfayya, it was agreed that all aid to the Lebanese Army should arrive at Muhammad Zughayb Barracks in Sidon. From there the Army will then be reequipped.

Calls Rebellion 'Israeli Scheme'

GF281916 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Doha, March 28 (WAKH) — Lebanon's Minister for South Affairs and chief of the Amal Movement Nabih Birri has said that the nationalist forces in Lebanon have a first priority in fighting the Israeli occupational forces, but are also ready to fight against any partitioning move.

Birri, in a statement published today by UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* described the rebellion inside the Lebanese Phalange party, led by Samir Ja'ja' as an Israeli scheme which has the eventual objective of partitioning the Lebanon.

The Amal chief expressed the hope, however, that the Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and the Christian community will succeed in finding a remedy for "this Israeli scheme which is being carried out by the Lebanese forces in Beirut, Sidon and south Lebanon."

Birri stressed that the national Lebanese resistance's first priority for the time being is "to continue the fight against the Israeli enemy until the Lebanese territories have been liberated."

He said that Israel has the objective of creating a 30 kilometers deep strip along the international borders [despite] its declared intention of withdrawal. Israel occupied south Lebanon following the invasion of June 1982.

Speaker al-Husayni Leaves for Visit to Vatican

NC281742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, at the head of a parliamentary delegation, left Beirut at 1500 today for the Vatican on an official visit of several days during which he will meet with Pope John Paul II and cardinals and officials in the Vatican. During his meeting, Speaker al-Husayni will discuss Lebanese developments and what the Vatican can do at this stage to support Lebanon and to safeguard its unity and sovereignty.

Kidnapped Journalist Said 'Safe and Sound'

AU281220 Paris AFP in English 1154 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Vienna, March 28 (AFP) — British journalist Alec Collett, working for the Vienna-based U.N. Relief and Works Agency [UNRWA] when he was kidnapped Monday [25 March] in Beirut, is "safe and sound," an official said today. A spokesman at headquarters here said the news came from the UNRWA office in Beirut which has been in constant contact with "certain groups" in Lebanon since Mr. Collett was seized. The official said that two other Britons working for UNRWA in Beirut were leaving the country on the advice of the British Embassy. One of them was the bureau director, John Defreates. But nine Australian, Irish, Norwegian and Swedish UNRWA officials will remain. The agency employs 2,300, most locally recruited Palestinians.

Meanwhile in Beirut 60-year-old British engineer Geoffrey Nash, seized there on March 14 and released Wednesday night, handed over a message to the Frnech Embassy from his kidnappers.

An embassy spokesman said the message was the same as a communique issued by the hitherto unknown "Khaybar Brigades Group" on Tuesday promising the release of Mr. Nash, British company director Brian Levick who was abducted on March 15, and a French hostage, Danielle Perez, a secretary at the French Embassy, seized on March 22. The group claimed it also held Mrs. Perez' father, French diplomat Marcel Carton, and French Vice-Consul Marcel Fontaine, who were also kidnapped on March 22.

Warning to British Authorities

NC281709 Paris AFP in English 1658 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Beirut, March 28 (AFP) — The "Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Moslems" today claimed responsibility for the kidnapping near Beirut Monday of British journalist Alec Collett, who works for U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA). An anonymous telephone caller to a foreign news agency bureau here said the organisation "has taken prisoner three criminals, agents of Zionism, including the British spy Alec Collett."

"We have discovered," the speaker said, "that Mr. Collett was in possession of documents in relation with espionage missions

for Mossad (the Israeli secret service) and the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)."

The telephone caller said: "Our organisation will in the next few days submit documents incriminating Mr. Collett through the U.N. bureau in Beirut to the U.N. secretary-general, Mr. (Javier) Perez de Cuellar and through the Lebanese daily *AL-SAFIR*.

"Our organisation warns the British authorities and all infidel forces against the continuation of their aggression. We shall pursue all those who are linked with British colonialism wherever they are until the achievement of our demands for the liberation of all mujahidin held in British prisons."

The "Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Moslems" has claimed responsibility for two other anti-British actions in the past year — the kidnapping of Jonathan Wright, Beirut correspondent of Reuter's News Agency, and the murder in March last year of the assistant director of the British Council office in Athens, Kenneth Whitty. Mr. Wright succeeded in escaping from his captors after being held for several months.

2 French Teachers Abducted in Beirut 28 Mar

NC282224 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2215 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Armed men kidnapped two Frenchmen, (Jean Claude Divon) and (Robert Valenciou), believed to be teachers, this evening in Verdun. The gunmen and the two Frenchmen drove away in a blue Volvo to an unknown destination.

Kidnapped Teachers Reportedly Released

NC290928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] AFP cites a French diplomatic source in Beirut as saying that the two French teachers who were kidnapped in West Beirut last night were released 3 hours after the abduction following efforts by the French ambassador to obtain their release.

Phalangist Warns Against Building Barriers

NC282108 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Dr Jean Ghanim, Lebanese Forces representative on the Security Arrangements Committee, has warned of the negative attitude represented by the renewed building of bunkers and barriers and the closure of streets by earthen barriers along the line from the commercial markets to the southern suburb of Beirut. We are very much surprised by this increasing phenomenon, he said, although it is not the result of a specific political decision. We fear that newly established facts may drag the political leaderships in West Beirut into making counter moves and escalatory steps that no one wants at this time.

Dr Ghanim added: We in the Lebanese Forces warn against the continued building of earthen barriers and bunkers. We affirm that we have not set up any new barriers or ramparts, contrary to accusations and rumors by certain parties in the other camp. We are committed to this and our political decision is clear in this respect. I call on the leaderships in West Beirut and on journalists to tour the area to verify this and to act as arbiters. Let it be clear to everyone, he said, that we reject this current state of affairs on the western side of the contact lines. We will not be dragged into such a confrontation except as a final resort.

Lebanese Forces Deploy Opposite Palestinian Camps

NC290752 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] The situation in east Sidon continues to be a focus of concern for officials and other leaders. Caution and tension prevail in those areas that continue to witness clashes, especially 'Abra, Al-Hilaliyah, Al-Qayya'ah, Al-Bramiyah, Mar Ilyas, and Harat Sayda. Last night, various parts of Sidon received sniper fire and shelling. The atmosphere was very tense, frustrating the optimism that accompanied efforts undertaken by officials in the last 24 hours to calm the situation.

The Lebanese Forces militiamen have expanded the area of tension in Sidon by deploying in Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Dulb, opposite the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah [Palestinian refugee] camps. They warned the Army to vacate its positions in the area.

Sources representing Sidon officials have expressed fear that the current disruption is a prelude to the establishment of a permanent combat line there.

Fighting Resumes in Tripoli; Casualties Reported

NC281508 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Gunmen in Tripoli have not abided by the cease-fire which was declared at noon today. Clashes have resumed in Al-Shari' al-Jadid, in Al-Qubbah, between the Arab Democratic Party and the Islamic Unification Movement.

Although some reports said that 25 people were killed or wounded in today's clashes, Reuter quoted a security source as saying that 4 people were killed and 15 others wounded.

Israeli Army Actions in the South Detailed

Vehicles Withdraw From Al-Hawsh

NC281220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Various Israeli vehicles were seen last night withdrawing from the Al-Hawsh area in the direction of Al-Naqurah. At 1000 today an Israeli patrol searched Al-Bazuriyah.

The occupation forces last night released approximately 55 persons who were recently kidnapped by Israeli intelligence forces.

Villages Stormed, Searched

NC281841 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The valiant resisting south today experienced another episode of increasing Zionist terrorism against the background of increasing arbitrary actions of the Zionist occupation forces, which were represented in their ugliest form this afternoon when enemy soldiers beat women, children, and old people in Shaqra in Bint Jubayl District. They also destroyed and set fire to the houses of the Al-Amin family in the village and fired indiscriminately on citizens, wounding several of them. Occupation forces also detained a large number of the village's young men and forced others to leave the village. They also imposed a curfew. Meanwhile, the enemy soldiers continued to search, storm, and loot houses in Shaqra.

Mechanized forces of the enemy today combed Al-Nabatiyah's main quarters and the area of the government house. They stormed Ahmad 'Ali Jabir's building and detained a large number of citizens.

In the market area in Tyre the occupation forces fired upon Husayn Salman Milhim from Al-Naqurah, wounding him seriously. He was taken to Jabal 'Amil Hospital.

Several enemy vehicles surrounded Kafr Jawz in the Al-Nabatiyah area and fired indiscriminately upon the village. Another enemy force surrounded Ansar and detained a large number of citizens after storming and looting village houses.

At 1000 today, an enemy force searched Al-Bazuriyah, while another force is besieging the border village of Al-'Udaysah since early this morning. No further details are available about the operation.

'Fierce Fighting' in Shaqra

NC290627 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Excerpt] In the south, the occupation forces and their agents, the Lahd militias, continue to besiege the heroic town of Shaqra. Reports from the south indicate that the situation in the town is very serious. They add that fierce fighting raged last night in the town's suburbs between the national and Islamic resistance fighters and the occupation forces and the agent militias.

The Zionist forces invaded the town following the killing of agent 'Abdallah Muhammad Husayn Khalaf, an official of Lahd's militias in Shaqra.

The reports add that resistance fighters destroyed two enemy vehicles on the town's outskirts, killing or wounding their passengers. Helicopters were seen airlifting the casualties.

Resistance Attacks ASL, Israeli Forces in South

NC281823 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters have attacked a position of the so-called army of southern Lebanon [ASL] in Shaqra, killing or wounding 10 soldiers.

This number includes 'Abdallah Khalaf, the official in charge of the position, who was killed during the attack. According to reports received from Tyre, Lebanese national resistance fighters fired rockets at an enemy position in Jall al-Bahr. The number of casualties is unknown.

The resistance also has executed agent 'Abbas Bitar in Al-Nabatiyah and warned other collaborators that they face the same fate.

Walid Junblatt Meets With USSR's Boris Ponomarev

For Moscow media reportage on the visit to the Soviet Union by Walid Junblatt, minister of public works, transport, and tourism, including his meeting with Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and CPSU Central Committee secretary, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 28 March Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Al-Ahmar Holds Talks With Polish Delegation

JN281036 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] In Damacus, Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Polish Sejm Speaker Stanislaw Gucwa and his delegation this morning.

During the meeting the talks revolved around the developing relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Polish United Workers' Party and Syrain-Polish relations.

Trade Agreement Signed With Soviet Union

JN281725 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 28 Mar (SANA) — An agreement on trade and cooperation between Syria and the USSR was signed here today. Dr 'Ammar Jamal, assistant minister of economy and foreign trade, signed for the Syrian side; and Ivan Grishin, deputy minister of foreign trade, signed for the USSR side. The agreement included lists of the two countries' main products that will be exchanged during the next 5 years.

After signing the agreement, the heads of the Syrian and the USSR sides exchanged speeches in which they expressed the two sides' complete readiness to increase cooperation and to develop trade between the two friendly countries. They also affirmed that the agreement is harmonious with the directives and decisions of the political leaderships in both countries to deepen, diversify, and expand bilateral trade and economic relations, as part of the distinguished relations between Syria and the USSR. The agreement is also considered a qualitative leap in developing bilateral trade relations.

Commentary on Rabin's 'Threats' Against Lebanon

JN281455 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers, Zionist enemy war minister Yitzhaq Rabin has increased his threats against Lebanon. He announced in firm language before the Foreign and Defense Affairs Committee in the Zionist Knesset that the Lebanese national resistance operations will be met with the scorched earth policy, which is based on massive reprisals. This is not the first time the enemy war minister has made such threats. Three days ago, he also announced that Israel will destroy villages and towns in southern Lebanon and will make life in them impossible.

It is obvious that the enemy war minister's threatening language reveals the dilemma of the occupation soldiers in southern Lebanon. Yitzhaq Rabin's announcement is a clear admission of the mounting resistance operations, which have taken the new posture of an all-out confrontation. Naturally, the Israeli dilemma in southern Lebanon has also expanded to affect the entire Zionist entity. Yitzhaq Rabin, who is keen on violence both in his threats and in the repressive measures taken by his forces in southern Lebanon, should have also said that the present circumstances are more difficult than those that existed before the Zionist invasion of Lebanon on 4 June 1982; this is not only with regard to the forces of the Zionist aggressor in southern Lebanon, but also with regard to the inhabitants of the Upper Galilee settlements for whose protection the aggression against Lebanon was said to have been carried out.

Therefore, in making his threats, Rabin is also making it clear for the first time in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict that Israel has been completely defeated in Lebanon. Zionist enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres confirmed this fact 2 days ago, when he announced that Israel will pull out from Lebanon sooner than expected. This clearly confirms that there is partial agreement in the Zionist entity that Israel has been defeated militarily and politically, and that the only way out is comprehensive withdrawal. Any objective analysis of the dimensions of the past and current situations in southern Lebanon clearly confirms that this is a defeat for the aggressive strategic alliance between Israel and the United States. The Zionist aggression against Lebanon was intended to be a prelude to U.S. imperialist hegemony over the Arab region and the realization of Zionist expansionist ambitions. Former U.S. Secretary of State General Alexander Haig revealed this fact very clearly when he announced in May 1982, only a few days before the Zionist invasion, that the U.S. moment in the Middle East had come and that Washington should begin its offensive in the Arab region on three main axes: Lebanon, the West Bank, and the Gulf, and that the starting point for all that was Lebanon. When the Zionist invasion began with the backing of the U.S. war machine, some people bet that the U.S. moment had indeed come and that Washington was very close to implementing is strategic plan to dominate the region, liquidate the rights of the Palestinian Arab people, and carry out the Zionist expansionist plan. Some people had even thought that the U.S.-Israeli plan had succeeded with the signing of the 17 May agreement and the U.S.-NATO military attack on Lebanon.

The false U.S.-Israeli victories delighted the pillars of apostacy and capitulation in the Arab homeland. They also thought that their moment had come. Thus, the movement of apostacy and capitulation hurried to reap the fruits of the alleged U.S.-Israeli victory. 'Arafat went to Cairo to coordinate the next phase with Husni Mubarak. He then went to Amman early in 1983 to work out the final details of the capitulation plan with the Jordanian monarch. From that moment, the U.S.-backed Mubarak-Husayn-'Arafat axis began the journey of final capitulation. Ronald Reagan gave them the capitulation working paper through his famous initiative. However, the escalation of the Lebanese national resistance movement placed big exclamation marks before the U.S. plot. These marks grew bigger and bigger with the growth of Syrian strength. Syria now possesses an important deterrent strategic force in face of the U.S. imperialist-Zionist threats. Syria has proved categorically that it is the wall of strategic steadfastness and that any plot or aggression is bound to collide with Syria's firm, principled stand and big power; this stems from the Arab masses' support of this firm stand and expresses our nation's interests and aspirations. The plotters will only reap miserable defeat.

Knesset Conducts Debate on State Budget

Agreement on Fund Allocation

TA281927 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] We learned just a few minutes ago that an agreement was reached between the Alignment and the Likud on the allocation of funds, so let us get an update with the help of our economic affairs correspondent, Hayim Plattner, from the Knesset.

[Plattner] Following a 2-day stalemate, something has finally moved in the Knesset. Just a few minutes ago, the dispute over the allocation of funds for specialized institutions was resolved. It was this dispute that in fact delayed the presentation of the state budget bill to the Knesset for approval by about 2 days. Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal is with us, and we will hear him speak about the details of the agreement that has just been reached:

[Shahal] The arrangement says that the breakdown of these allocations will not appear in the actual law. The bill will be presented the way it should and will mention an overall sum, while the actual allocations and their breakdown will not appear at all, and everything will be subject to criteria set down by the attorney general.

This accord was reached after I talked with Ministers Nisim and David Levi, and it stipulates that first of all we — the Likud and the Alignment — must set down the principles and rules. After this was agreed to, the accord was reached relatively easily, and I believe it was both fundamental and important for the two large parties to first of all determine between themselves what the norms are, and later to present the rest according to principles. I am pleased that we reached this agreement.

Peres Defends Budget

TA282219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is currently summing up the Knesset debate on the budget, and says the allegation that it is inflated is totally unfounded; on the contrary, there is a $1.8 billion cut in real terms. Israel, he said, is the only economy in the world that is trying to gain stability without causing unemployment. He totally rejected all criticism of the religious institutions, saying that an attempt was made to shape a budget that would not discriminate against the observant circles, and yet at the same time be acceptable to the nonobservant.

Knesset Member [MK] Avraham Shapira brought the budget proposal to the plenum, and bitterly criticized the Alignment, the Likud, and the National Religious Party. Among other things, MK Shapira said that the criterion that makes an institution worthy of a special allocation, in the eyes of the large parties, is the institution's nonreligious character.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli notes that MK Shapira praised the opposition factions, which are boycotting the debate, and commended their contribution to consolidating the budget in the earlier stages.

It was reported earlier that Ministers David Levi and Moshe Shahal took joint action to force the attorney general's formula — which says that all the specialized allocations will be apportioned according to equal criteria — on the religious parties.

Approves Budget

TA290525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Excerpt] After 2 days of tough political bargaining, the Knesset late last night finally approved the state budget totaling 20.2 trillion shekels. The vote was 58 to 3 — the three opposition votes coming from the Communist Party. Four other opposition factions — MAPAM, Tehiya, Citizens Rights Movement, and the Progressive List for Peace — were absent. The Knesset has now gone into recess for the Passover holiday.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 29 March adds that "Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar voted against the budget, while former Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad did not take part in the vote."]

Peres Announces Additional Funds for Settlement

TA282221 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The prime minister told the Knesset today that the northern settlements will receive $90 million to finance 2,000 jobs.

Fuel Prices Rise By 13 Percent Average

TA290538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] Fuel prices went up last night by an average of 13 percent: 91 octane petrol will now cost 511 shekels a liter; 96 octane, 602 shekels; kerosene will cost 425 shekels a liter; and diesel oil, 407; a 12-kilo cylinder of gas for home use: 8,150 shekels.

Ben-Elisar, Sason Confer With Egypt's Al-Majid

TA281344 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1323 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met with Knesset Member [MK] Eliyahu Ben-Elisar this afternoon. MK Ben-Elisar, Israel's first ambassador to Egypt, went to Cairo to participate in festivities organized by EL AL to mark the 5th anniversary of the beginning of its operations in Egypt. Our Arab affairs correspondent, Eldad Beck, notes that the meeting was also attended by the current Israeli ambassador in Cairo, Mr Moshe Sason. The three discussed Egypt's relations with Israel and the new peace initiatives in the Middle East.

MA'ARIV: Egypt Prepared To Allow Israelis in Tabah

TA281111 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
28 Mar pp 1, 11

[Report by Avi Bettelheim]

[Text] Egypt is prepared to allow Israel to continue to operate the Aviya Sonesta Hotel and other installations in Tabah. The Egyptian Government wants Israel to recognize Egypt's sovereignty over Tabah, particularly for domestic reasons, and does not intend to halt the development of the area and its operation by Israelis. These facts emerge from a transcript of the talks held by President Mubarak, the Egyptian foreign minister, and the chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee with British Jewish notables and members of Parliament in London. Excerpts of these talks, part of which were confidential, have been learned by *MA'ARIV*.

The three Egyptian officials lavished compliments on Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and made it clear that the momentum of the contacts with Israel was not temporary and that Egypt intends to deepen relations and solve pending problems. Mubarak said: We are interested in direct contacts and negotiations with Israel — and these will definitely take place. Yes, I will meet with Mr Peres, but on three conditions: that the question of Tabah is solved — and we are prepared to go to arbitration on this issue; that there is a withdrawal from Lebanon; and that the Palestinian issue is dealt with.

Mubarak noted that he could not concede on the Tabah issue because this would make him lose his credibility in the eyes of the Egyptian people. When his British hosts pressured him to confer with Shim'on Peres because, in their opinion, such a meeting may help promote the peace process, the Egyptian president asked them not to push him. "Do you want to get rid of me?" Mubarak asked. One of the British participants retorted: "What do you want? To get rid of Shim'on Peres?" Mubarak replied: "Certainly not, but I hope he understands my problems. I know you speak to him by phone. Please convey my best wishes to him."

The chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah (the Egyptian envoy who met with Peres in Romania), said the Tabah issue created a domestic problem for the Egyptian Government, particularly with extreme circles and those opposed to peace. "If we do not handle the issue carefully, they might murder us — the leadership — as simply as that. That is why we are careful."

'Abdallah added: "If we do not handle the question properly and the result is seen as a victory for Israel, this may help Peres but it might cost us our lives. If Peres concedes, it might only cost him three or four Knesset members. We agreed to go to arbitration based on the understanding that regardless of who loses on the sovereignty question, the sides will be able 'to do business' on the question of the actual use of the area. Egypt will not be able to use the installations, just as it could not use the facilities in Al-Nuwaybi' and Sharm al-Shaykh after the withdrawal. No Egyptian will want to live in Tabah. Still, the question of sovereignty must be clear beyond any shadow of doubt."

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid told his British hosts that he had repelled heavy pressure by some Arab elements and had insisted that Israel was entitled to open a pavilion at the International Book Fair in Cairo. According to him, there is agricultural and industrial trade, import licenses for Israeli chemicals have been renewed, and the go-ahead has been given to joint research projects, exchanges of information, and mutual visits.

On the issue of Tabah, the Egyptian foreign minister said: "Tabah is sacred land, and one does not lease sacred land. It would not be proper. However, if this were to be decided by arbitration, we would agree to it." 'Abd al-Majid added that relations with Israel were good and that "there have been mutual visits by the right people. We believe in Peres and we will try to help him."

Rabin Promises IDF Support For Civil Guards, ASL

TA281848 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1824 GMT
28 Mar 85

["Defense Ministry Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 28 Mar (ITIM) — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said today that Israel is interested in the activity of the civil guards in the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] in the security zone in order to guarantee the peace and security of the inhabitants of this area.

At a meeting with commanders of the civil guards in Hasbayya this evening, the minister added that the IDF would help the civil guards and the ASL, and provide backing for their activities. The minister did not mention how this backing would be given.

The minister repeated his emphasis that the IDF would back anyone interested in calm along the border and would work against anyone trying to undermine this calm.

The minister was accompanied by the chief of staff, Lieutenant General Moshe Levi; the deputy chief of staff, Major General Dan Shomron; the commander of the Northern Command, Major General Ori Or; and the commander of the liaison unit in Lebanon, Brigadier General Shlomo Ilia.

IDF Conducts Operations in Southern Lebanon

Kills 70 'Terrorists'

TA281734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The IDF has recently carried out searching operations in southern Lebanon, during which hundreds suspected of involvement in hostile activity or aiding terrorists were detained. In the course of those operations, IDF soldiers killed approximately 70 terrorists and demolished 84 houses. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that 23 villages were searched and that many weapons were found, including approximately 20 LAW [light antitank weapon] missiles, several Strella missiles,

mortar shells, hundreds of hand grenades and brick-shaped bombs, about 90 Kalashnikov rifles, machineguns, and almost three-quarters of a ton of explosives.

3 'Terrorists' Killed

TA280903 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0853 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] Three terrorists were killed last night in a clash with an IDF unit near the Al-Litani River, about 10 km northeast of Tyre. Our forces did not sustain any casualties. The IDF spokesman reports that an IDF unit ran into and opened fire on a terrorist squad moving along the Al-Litani riverbed. Subsequent searches uncovered three dead terrorists with Kalashnikov rifles and RPG's which had been in their possession. As said, our forces did not sustain any casualties.

IDF Maneuvers in Northern Command End 28 Mar

TA281148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The IDF corps command maneuvers, which began 5 days ago within the Northern Command zone, ended this morning, with the chief of staff, the commander of the Northern Command, the commander of the field armies, and senior officers in attendance. The chief of staff emphasized the importance of intensifying training. He noted that there is great cooperation between the corps and branches of the IDF, and said that the objectives of the maneuvers were successfully attained, despite the field activity in Lebanon.

UNIFIL's Mandate in S. Lebanon To Expire in April

Shortened Mandate Requested

TA281215 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
28 Mar 85 P 2

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] Israel has requested that the United Nations shorten UNIFIL's next mandate in southern Lebanon from 6 to only 3 months.

UNIFIL's mandate in southern Lebanon is due to expire in the middle of April. It is feared that if UNIFIL continues its previous deployment, there will be friction between the UN soldiers and the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] which might disrupt the activity of ASL soldiers.

Lebanon Requests 'No Changes'

TA281832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Lebanon has asked the UN Security Council to renew the UNIFIL mandate for another 6 months with no changes. This came in a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The letter said Lebanon does not feel UNIFIL needs a wider role. The mandate expires April 19th. Israeli officials say they would have preferred for the UNIFIL mandate to have been changed, but will not oppose renewal in its present form.

MA'ARIV: Shi'ites Say Majority Oppose Terrorism

TA281144 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
28 Mar 85 pp 1, 11

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Text] "Do not treat all the Shi'ites as enemies; we know that the attacks against you are being perpetrated by only a small percentage who are doing it for money and following instructions from Syria, Libya, and Iran, to the chagrin of the silent majority. The problem is that all of us, without exception, are blamed by you and accused of being enemies of the Jewish people — and that is not true." This was stated by more than 10 leaders of Shi'ite villages in an exclusive and candid talk with *MA'ARIV* which took place in a prominent Shi'ite village in southern Lebanon, in the area under IDF control.

The Shi'ite leaders claimed to represent the majority of the inhabitants in 44 villages in the south, and said they know that only 10 percent of the youths have joined the Lebanese resistance front which is in no way connected with the Shi'ite faith. According to them, it is wrong to generalize about the Shi'ites in Lebanon and say that they are all members of the Amal or the Hezbollah organizations. They said that not only is the silent Shi'ite majority in the south not cooperating with the terrorists, but the Shi'ites in Beirut and even in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon are also not cooperating with them.

According to the village leaders, there is a significant number of Shi'ites in the security strip near the border with Israel, about 120,000 people, who have taken an oath in their mosques to fulfill the Koran phrase: "You should support those who have undertaken not to hurt you."

"Of course, the reference is to Israel," the village leaders said. "Circumstances have forced us to live next to Israel. We will continue to maintain good relations with it until an independent Lebanese state that does not rely on any foreign factor is established and will expand these good relations with Israel."

"We promise Israel," the Shi'ite notables said, "that we will expel any suspect entering our villages, even if he is an inhabitant of the village. It is a pity that all those villages living under the threat of Shi'ite mercenary terrorists do not follow in our footsteps."

The village leaders, who refused to be identified, recounted that in the past they had rejected proposals to cooperate with Palestinian terrorists and that they had not been tempted by their monetary offers. "We opted for abandoning the south and fleeing to Beirut rather than capitulating to them. Now we have returned to our villages and would like to hold onto this God-given piece of land where we were born and raised." The Shi'ite minority that aims its weapons at Israel is doing so because of the political rivalry among Shi'ite leaders in Beirut. "They harangue and

agitate against Israel although their wives gave birth in Israeli hospitals, and they enjoy attacking the Galilee although their families and loved ones live in the security strip next to Israel." The Shi'ite village leaders said that because of their bad reputation in Israel, the silent majority gets treated very harshly by the IDF. "We cannot do business, there is less food in the villages, we cannot bring goods from Beirut, we cannot move freely on the roads, and we cannot get to Beirut either." In response, a security source in the IDF liaison unit with southern Lebanon said that there is no discrimination between the factions in the area at the border crossings and as far as granting licenses is concerned. He noted, however, that the circumstances in the field oblige the IDF soldiers manning the roadblocks to thoroughly check every Shi'ite.

MA'ARIV Views Power Struggle in Sidon Refugee Camps

TA281224 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
28 Mar 85

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpts] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat this week completely solidified his control over the Sidon refugee camps of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah. He was assisted by Palestinian commanders who had earlier been released from Ansar, and by Sunni leaders who are in control in Sidon. This was told to *MA'ARIV* by well-informed Arab sources in southern Lebanon yesterday. Immediately following the IDF's withdrawal from the area, 'Arafat sent his supporters huge quantities of small and medium arms to enable them to withstand attacks by Christian forces against the Muslims in the city and its vicinity. According to the sources, Syria intends to activate local armed forces against 'Arafat's supporters. The head of the Shi'ite Amal militia, Nabih Birri, and Druze leader Walid Junblatt have announced that they want the job.

Peres Receives Mitterrand Message Explaining UN Vote

TA282220 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2200 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The French president has told Shim'on Peres that France has been, and continues to be, a friend of Israel, and its vote at the UN Security Council on Lebanon is not indicative of a change in its policy. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that these remarks by President Mitterrand are included in a personal message he sent this evening to the Israeli prime minister.

HA'ARETZ Hits Rabin on 'Scorched Earth' Remarks

TA281356 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
28 Mar 85 p 9

[Editorial: "Verbal Escalation Does Not Boost Security"]

[Text] "We will wage an unlimited war against terrorism; we will attack terrorism wherever it exists." Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin made thse remarks before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. To be more precise, he explained that attacks against terrorists will not be restricted to just 5-10 km, but will extend as far as 80 km. This means that Beirut and other places in the north will not be immune to retaliation. He said that if Shi'ite terrorism follows the IDF into Israeli territory, Israel would adopt a scorched earth policy although it would be "loath" to do so.

Is it really necessary to use such expressions? Everyone in Israel understands that the IDF's withdrawal from southern Lebanon obliges us to ensure that the northern settlements are not bothered again by terrorists, and that the fate of Lebanese Shi'ites should not be any different from that of PLO members. It is reasonable to assume that since the attempt to ensure peace for the Galilee by military intervention in the interfactional war in Lebanon has failed, the IDF will have to revert to the raids — on land, air, and sea — used prior to the Al-Litani operation. No one would be surprised if these raids were carried out with even greater intensity. It should also be clear that the range of attacks should not be restricted, if indeed what we have to react to are not individual attacks but rather attacks by an organization.

Still, and without wanting to become complacent, it should be noted that there are differences of opinion as to what can be expected in terms of daily security on the northern border once the evacuation is completed. One can gather from Yitzhaq Rabin's remarks that not only PLO members will try to approach the border and renew their terrorist attacks, but Shi'ite groups will also try to harass us. Rabin describes the Shi'ites as enemies of Israel similar to and even stronger and more dangerous than the PLO. The prime minister, however, does not seem to agree with the defense minister, and he also bases his position on intelligence sources. Knesset Member Ehud Olmert of the Likud claimed that the defense minister had drawn an exaggerated picture of Shi'ite hostility.

Even if we believe that there is a real danger in the north, are the warnings and threats made once or twice by the defense minister not enough to warn those conspiring against us? What use is there in the defense minister repeating them every day, especially when each time the warnings become more aggressive? Using expressions such as "scorched earth" does not do much to increase sympathy for Israel. The verbal escalation that has recently characterized Rabin's appearances will not bring about more understanding of our security problem; instead, it might increase the suspicion that Israel is seeking opportunities to demonstrate its military strength over and over.

That minority within the public and among some Knesset members, which is still adamant about not ending the Lebanese adventure initiated by Begin, Sharon, and Eytan, will not stop demanding that the IDF entrench along the Al-Litani River in the wake of Yitzhaq Rabin's daily threats to retaliate strongly against the Shi'ites. The opposite is true: Rabin's presentation of the Shi'ites as a source of danger may reinforce the minority's position.

The defense minister points to Shi'ite terrorism as though it were the result of the Lebanese war, which he now describes as a mistake. He is right on this point. However, the conclusion to be reached from this is that political ways must be found to reduce the hostility that caused the IDF to prolong its stay in southern Lebanon. It is not difficult to teach the people of Israel that they

have acquired a new enemy in addition to the PLO. Such preaching does not help deal with the political task — that of reducing the hostility of the Shi'ites who will be living next to our northern settlements — and does not enhance the IDF's combat ability.

HA'ARETZ Sees U.S. Aid Linked To Domestic Politics

TA281320 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
28 Mar 85 p 9

[Commentary by Tzvi Bar'el: "The Money Will Arrive"]

[Text] The money will come, either in another week or two. It makes no difference now; we will get the $1.5 billion in emergency aid we requested. It no longer matters that senior economists in the U.S. Administration believe that the money will go down the drain or that the secretary of state fears that it will lead to deeper dependence on the United States. This is no longer an economic game but a political one which at this stage may be described as a session of "arm wrestling" between the administration and Congress. They are both strong but one of them is bound to give in first. The administration wants it to be Congress while the latter would like the administration to step forward and say: "Give money to Israel."

The administration's considerations are not only based on Israel's interests. Given the current relationship between the two countries and the constraints on the U.S. federal budget, the administration would like to reach the point where it is Congress that decides to grant Israel sums exceeding last year's budget, which was set as the limit for this year's budget. If Congress does that, the administration would be able to make financial demands that affect "the very existence of the United States," as some U.S. Cabinet members describe it. It would then be able to ask for additional allocations for the rebels in Nicaragua, higher pensions for retired Pentagon workers, additional allocations to the defense budget, and so forth.

If Congress takes the initiative, the administration will be able to argue: "What do you want from us? You were the ones who exceeded the budget, you were the ones who gave more money to Israel. So why should you not provide money for other purposes? Thus, the arguments of those favoring budget cuts will have been undermined.

Congress wants to maintain the budget framework and does not want to take the initiative; it would like the administration to be the one to ask for additional aid for Israel. In that event, Congress would be in a more convenient position to say: "Additional aid for Israel is one thing, but other increases would have to be based on merit." That way Congress would retain its moral basis to cut other budgets without harming Israel. Usually, such a matter would not come up at all. Normally, the administration would prepare the request for foreign aid to Israel and Congress would approve it or add to it. This year, however, the administration decided that a friend like Israel should be helped to stand on its own two feet.

This means that additional aid to Israel should serve a clear purpose and that at the end of the process Israel's books should show a credit balance. The administration is under the impression that Israel is prepared to take the end result but not the hardships leading to it. "Moda'i told us that, politically speaking, Israel cannot do any more than it has done so far, but we do not think this is the whole truth," an administration official told me. "If you do not implement the measures we have recommended, in the long run you will experience a far more serious crisis and come to permanently depend on us," he added.

Even after Professors Herbert Stein and Stanley Fisher, senior economists on the joint economic committee, returned from their visit to Israel the administration was not satisfied. "It is clear to us that we cannot welcome the government's economic plan. It is not that what you have done so far is not good, it is just that it cannot replace a serious and comprehensive plan." Maybe, but the real problem of that senior official is no longer how to convince Israel but rather how to present the issue to Congress in such a way that, on the one hand, he is not seen as standing in Israel's way and, on the other, he is not forced to do something he does not believe in, such as asking for emergency aid for Israel. "At the moment, my problem is not an economic but a political one," the official said.

One of the solutions now being considered is that during its upcoming deliberations with Congress the administration would announce that it does not support the Israeli Government's economic plan and that the measures described before the U.S. experts cannot achieve the desired goal, but that if Israel thinks this is the right way we should let it prove it. Here, the administration would suggest a relatively low sum, about $400 to $500 million to be given at once, and would make the granting of an additional sum within a few months conditional on economic progress. "This compromise contradicts economic logic," the official said, "but as economists, we are known to be chronically wrong and that is why we would be willing to give others the chance to prove us wrong."

At this point, however, the official foresees more problems. Although economic progress cannot be concealed, "as an economist I know that in your situation it is difficult to make progress in a few months and the problem will be how to determine whether there has been some relative progress or a deterioration. In a few months, I can see myself once again arguing with Finance Ministry Director General 'Imanu'el Sharon or with the economic attache at the Israeli Embassy, Dan Halperin, about the way to look at the figures you are showing us."

Still, let us assume that this problem is also solved; one cannot guarantee that a certain measure recommended by the administration will ultimately succeed. "What will happen if our recommendations prove incorrect? You will then tell us 'give us all the money because you made us fail'." This impossible situation in which the administration knows, or thinks it knows, what should be done about Israel's economy but cannot and does not want to force the implementation of certain measures on us places it in a tough bargaining position with Congress; this has reached the point where one school of thought in the administration has concluded that it would be best to allow Congress to initiate and approve the additional aid to Israel and, consequently, put the

administration in a more convenient position regarding other subjects that also entail exceeding the budget.

For its part, Congress is aware of the embroglio it might end up in if it chooses this way, and that is why it has repeatedlyagreed to postpone the debate rather than take the initiative. At the same time, however, it has been grossly hinting to the administration that it would not hesitate to take the responsibility and approve emergency aid to Israel. The question now is who will overpower whom first and whether an interim solution is at all attainable. This muscle-flexing between the administration and Congress puts Israel in an unpleasant situation. Nonetheless, there is no doubt that we will get the money, but the question is how and at whose initiative.

If the administration's compromise proposal, according to which we would receive interim sums dependent on the accomplishment of economic objectives, is accepted we would be placed under its open and analytical eye and we would frequently find ourselves in the middle of strong arguments over the interpretation of this or another sum. Lengthy and frequent arguments ultimately lead to tepid or cold relations. If Congress initiates approval of additional aid against the administration's best judgment, we will also then be perceived as stabbing a knife in the back of U.S. policy and using a sympathetic Congress to embarrass the administration or, what is even worse, to spend U.S. funds.

Moreover, let us assume that after we receive the additional aid this year it emerges that the administration's argument was right and that the government's economic measures led us nowhere: In another year we will once again find ourselves hat in hand. This will have been the second year of cuts to the U.S. budget, a year in which U.S. citizens and institutions will have felt the meaning of a budgetary freeze. Will we also then expect such a warm attitude on the part of Congress?

Even if we do, we will then be in the same situation as that of an old man who knows he should whistle at a passing pretty girl but has already forgotten why.

Franc Zone Finance Ministers Session Opens in Niamey
AB282053 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The 43d session of ministers of finance and economy of member-states of the franc zone opened in Niamey this morning. The opening ceremony was presided over by Prime Minister Hamid Algabit in the presence of several members of the Supreme Military Council and of the government and other invited guests. Adamou Hamman, who was at the opening ceremony, reports:

[Begin recording] [Hamman] In his opening speech, Prime Minister Hamid Algabit said the holding of this meeting in Niger constitutes a mark of support and encouragement in our country's efforts to cope with the double effects of the economic crisis and a severe drought. The prime minister also added that the holding of this meeting in our country is a symbol of solidarity and determination of our states to get out of the whirlwind of a major economic and financial crisis.

[Algabit] In fact, if it is generally true today that certain indicators of economic revival have considerably improved, it is also true that this revival has not as yet significantly touched the developing countries. This is indicated by the paucity of financial resources that enable us to sustain our revival program, the high cost of our indebtedness, and the continued fall in the prices of primary commodities. In such a situation, consultations in the search for suitable solutions and the spirit of solidarity in the franc zone constitute a special challenge to the disorder and the selfishness that is reigning in the international monetary market.

[Hamman] The prime minister then stressed the special role played by France which, he said, has been able to respond to the hopes of its African partners. Thus he spoke about France's role in the negotiations for the renewal of the Lome convention and the establishment of a special fund for Africa at the World Bank. Hamid Algabit also spoke about what has been done and what remains to be done.

Next to speak was Pierre Beregovoy, French minister of economy, finance, and budget, who spoke about the importance of this meeting which, he said, would enable us to have a useful review our situation before the meeting of international bodies next April in Washington to discuss the problem of indebtedness and development in the world. Pierre Beregovoy spoke about the world economic recession and monetary disorder, drought and famine which has created dramatic situations in our countries, and added that a renewed and wider international solidarity is more than necessary.

[Beregovoy] Our responsibilities are immense. Whether or not the lot of tens of millions of men and women on the African Continent will improve depends on us. It is our duty to see that solidarity triumphs over selfishness, that the necessary rigors we impose can be socially supported. It is also our duty to see to it that glimmers of hope come to justify to our peoples the often very harsh efforts we demand from them. To take us out of the current difficulties, we need at once economic growth and (?political) stability. This is the common objective of the franc zone. To achieve this, economic redress policies aimed at streamlining our balance of payments should be pursued.

I am aware of the efforts each one of you has undertaken in his country; I am doing the same in my country. It is not always easy, and I know that is even more difficult for you, but financial austerity is the key to redress. We must continue with it. Any laxity will compromise the progress made by our countries. The high rate of the dollar which weighs heavily on imports and the high rate of interest which burdens, as you have just pointed out, Mr Prime Minister, the servicing of debt, complicate our task. The sudden rises in the dollar rate also make any estimates and projections difficult and render the prices of primary commodities unstable. That is why a new international monetary order is indispensable.

The franc zone is the first step toward this order, as far as we are concerned. The franc zone is an institution unique of its kind in the world. The franc zone, whose membership is based on the free will of states and respect for the sovereignty of each member, is not the remnant of an archaic past, but the example to follow for countries that want to improve upon their efforts rather than quarrel with one another.

[Hamman] After talking about the role and importance of the franc zone in the development of our countries, Mr Beregovoy said that all countries are affected by the trend of world trade since the profitability of many investment projects depend on the prospects of exports, the price of imported goods — balance of trade — hence, the need for a zone of monetary stability. Mr Beregovoy then spoke about next April's meeting in Washington of international bodies on debt and development in the world.

[Beregovoy] I want to recall the ideas we have in common. First of all, aid for development should be intensified. It is an urgent necessity both bilaterally and multilaterally. Although I admit that private investment is necessary, this private initiative should not overshadow public aid, which remains indispensable. To this end, the World Bank has a more important role to play and we must convince the United States of America about the need to increase its capital. Secondly, the peculiarity of Africa, and especially sub-Saharan Africa, should be recognized, notably of the countries you represent, in order to better sustain the economic adjustment efforts and, above all, to encourage agricultural development so as to ensure food self-sufficiency. [end recording]

Conference of African Information Ministers Opens
AB271814 Dakar PANA in English 1747 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Addis Ababa, 27 March (PANA) — The third ordinary session of the Conference of African Ministers of Information drawn from the member-states of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) started today in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

The conference elected a new bureau composed of Egypt (chairman), Guinea Conakry (1st vice-chairman), Kenya (2nd vice-chairman), Zambia (3d vice-chairman) and Cameroon (rapporteur). Consultations would continue tonight to elect the drafting committee which will be announced tomorrow.

A key-note message to the conference from the Ethiopian head of state, Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, was delivered by the outgoing conference chairman Dr Felleke Gedle-Giorgis, the Ethiopian minister of information and national guidance. The Ethiopian leader's message emphasised that the task of information and mass media could not be divorced from the socio-economic and political well-being of mankind, hence the need for a new world information and communication order (NWICO), which was "actually part and parcel of the new international economic order."

A vote of thanks to Chairman Mengistu's message was proposed by Tanzania whose emphasis was on the need to strengthen the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA) "to enable it counter the adverse propaganda about Africa churned out by the western press."

In his statement, the acting secretary general of the OAU Dr Peter Onu reminded the ministers that they were advocates of "popular involvement", hence the need to rely on information to go beyond national frontiers "in a campaign to project not only our crisis situation, but also our efforts to reverse the trend". He declared: "It can be done, it must be done" when he reiterated that Africa had the capability to gather, analyse and disseminate information about "our continent to foster its socio-economic development". Dr Onu urged that the African masses must be reached "to catalyse their efforts for self-sufficiency and socio-economic intercourse" adding that this "pivotal role of information" could intensify the campaign to implement the Lagos Plan of Action. The liberation struggle in southern Africa must be hightened, Dr Onu stressed because the combatants are not terrorists as the Western press describes them, instead it was the Pretoria racists "who wage the propaganda war of the air-waves" who are the terror-campaigners.

An assurance was made by the UNESCO director general, Mr Amadou Mahtar M'bow's representative at the conference that the UN agency would spare no efforts to meet PANA's future needs along with other African communications institutions.

Mengistu Message

EA281728 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The third OAU information ministers conference opened today at the organization's conference hall with a message from Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, read for him by Comrade Felleke Gedle-Giorgis, WPE Central Committee member, information and national guidance minister, and chairman of the meeting.

In his message to the participants of the congress, our comrade revolutionary leader said the efforts being carried out to form a new world information system are part of the struggle to create a new economic order. He added that the Africa mass media, in addition to contributing toward developing progress and peace in their countries, will bring about closer relations and brotherhood among African countries and peoples. He expressed the conviction that the congress will produce useful ideas toward this end.

The comrade secretary general recalled that the African information ministers meeting planned to have been held in Dakar, Senegal in 1982 was postponed due to political conflicts at the time. He noted that the 20th OAU summit has found a solution to the problem and made it possible for the third regular conference to be convened. This, he said, clearly demonstrates the basic strength of our unity.

Egyptian Minister Speaks

NC281416 Cairo MENA in English 1345 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 28 (MENA) — Egyptian Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif, who was elected chairman of the African Information Ministerial Council, today called on the African mass media to adhere to the unity of Africa, reject foreign interference, solve disputes peacefully and bolster up the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Al-Sharif also urged the African media to back the Palestinian people in their struggle for regaining their legitimate rights, mainly their right to self-determination and statehood. He called for decrying the ongoing war between Iraq and Iran, supporting the Lebanese integrity, independence and sovereignty over its land, sticking to the right of Namibia's people to liberation, and called for condemning all forms of racial discrimination practiced by the South African regime.

This came in the speech the Egyptian minister of information delivered today before the third conference of the African information ministers, currently held in Addis Ababa.

Reviewing the Egyptian experience in information, Al-Sharif called for adopting the Egyptian concept of democracy and freedom. He then proposed a recommendation by the conference to set up a fund for extending information assistance to the African countries that need it. Egypt is ready to contribute to this fund, he added.

Seminar on Namibian Independence in Brazzaville

AB281824 Dakar PANA in French 1044 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Brazzaville, 28 Mar (ACI/PANA) — Two proposals aimed at strengthening the liberation struggle, and hastening the procedure for the self-determination of the Namibian people within a short time, were made on Tuesday, on the second day of a seminar on the intensification of international action for Namibian independence, which opened in Brazzaville on Monday.

The proposal called for "sytematic financial aid" to SWAPO to give fresh impetus to its struggle for justice and freedom, and "economic sanctions" capable of isolating the South African regime, and obliging it to withdraw from Namibian territory.

These proposals — the first one made by the Secretary General of the Antiapartheid Trade Unions, Gilbert Pongault — and the second by the PLO representative in Brazzaville, Abu Zir Salah, were approved by several participants. The participants underlined the need to apply rigorous sanctions against countries, companies and other institutions maintaining economic, commercial and military relations with the Pretoria regime.

According to Mr Pongault, "systematic financial aid" to SWAPO would come from deductions from African state budgets in particular. These deductions could eventually be made from the budgets of other countries, if the idea is accepted by various governments.

The economic sanctions would comprise embargoes, a ban on trade and cultural exchange, as well as all forms of trafficking, especially arms trafficking.

The meeting, which had begun under the theme "observations" between the various delegations from several regions in the world, was characterized at certain moments by debates that were sometimes heated and direct, or sometimes defensive.

The Zambian, Tanzanian, Zimbabwean and Egyptian delegates firmly called on the United States, Great Britain, France and West Germany to put an end to their association and collusion with South Africa, because it is on account of their logistic support that the Pretoria government refuses to apply UN Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibian independence. Refuting this accusation, Mr Lagorce, delegate of the French (Socialist) Parliament, said that France stopped the sale and delivery of arms to South Africa since the arrival of the Socialist government in 1981. Other participants expressed similar views, and showed their firm desire to oblige the racist South African Government to abandon its illegal occupation of the South-West African territory.

On Wednesday the participants were expected to examine obstacles being put in the way of the implementation of the UN plan. This plan is defined in Resolution 435 which was adopted on 29 September 1978. It recommends a cease-fire, and the holding of free elections on Namibian territory under UN auspices. The aim of this seminar is to seek solutions likely to hasten the self-determination procedure for the Namibian people. It should be noted that a report on the conclusions and recommendations on these issues will be presented to the 40th session of the UN General Assembly.

Interparliamentary Conference Delegates Meet Togolese

DPRK Group Meets Eyadema

AB281630 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] General Gnassingbe Eyadema this morning at the Presidential Palace in Lome received a Korean delegation of four led by Mrs Yo Yong-ku, vice chairman of the Korean Supreme People's Assembly. The delegation also included His Excellency Kim Hyong-sam, Korean ambassador to Togo. The Korean delegation, which is in Lome within the framework of the 73d interparliamentary conference, went to deliver a message from President Kim Il-song to the head of state, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema. Following the audience, the leader of the delegation spoke to reporters. Mrs Yo expressed in part'cular the pride of her delegation for being received by Gen Eyadema.

Eyadema Receives Sudanese

JN281120 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Lome, Rajab 6/Mar 23 (SUNA) — President of Togo Gnassingbe Eyadema yesterday received a message from Numayri on strengthening bilateral relations. The message was delivered by House Speaker 'Izz al-Din al-Sayyid. In a press statement following the meeting, Al-Sayyid said that he had discussed with the president African issues and parliamentary cooperation between Sudan and Togo.

The president of Togo gave 'Izz al-Din a message to president Numayri in which he extended to him an invitation to visit Togo.

On the other hand, Sudan delegation at the 73rd conference of Interparliamentary Union here managed to enlist in the conference agenda the question of drought and famine in Africa and its impact on Sudan. It is understood that Al-Sayyid chairs the Interparliamentary Union.

Israelis Meet Minister

TA281355 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The Knesset Delegation to the Interparliamentary Union conference in the capital of Togo met this morning with the minister of rural planning [title as heard], one of the Togolese president's confidants. Our Paris correspondent Rafi Matar reports that, after the talk, the minister said that within a few days he intends to send three people to Israel for further education.

Knesset Member Simha Dinitz said that, in his view, there is a greater openness toward Israel in Africa and there are reservations about Arab pressure.

ALGERIA

Communique Issued on Senegalese Minister's Visit

LD281412 Algiers APS in English 1126 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers, 28-3-85 (APS) — An Algero-Senegalese press communique was issued on Thursday after the visit official the Senegalese Minister of Interior Ibrahimi Wone paid to Algeria from March 24 to 29. The communique notably notes that "after the talks the two delegations had, and which were characterized by confidence and fraternity, the two sides restated their committment to work together for the reinforcement and intensification of exchanges at all levels between their ministries in order to contribute in the strengthening of the fraternity links between the two countries and the reinforcement of cooperation between the two brother peoples."

As a conclusion the communique points out that "it was agreed to increase the exchange of delegations and contacts between elected and administrative officials in order to exchange their mutual experiences in the field of administration, management, decentralization, development and training."

LIBYA

Further Reportage on British Expulsion Anniversary

Ba'th Party Delegation Arrives

JN281110 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] An Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation led by Comrade Mit'ib Shinan, member of the Ba'th Party National Command, arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening. In a statement on arrival, Comrade Shinan said that the delegation is visiting Libya to participate with the fraternal Libyan people in their celebration of the 15th anniversary of the expulsion of British bases from Libyan territory. He asserted in this regard that any revolutionary victory on any spot in the Arab homeland is a victory for Syria and the entire Arab nation.

Celebrations in Tobruk

LD281622 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Today the Libyan Arab people celebrate the 15th anniversary of the expulsion of the British colonialist bases which desecrated the Libyan Arab land, protected the agent royalist regime, and dealt blows to the Arab nation. Celebrations and festivals continue today in the various municipalities to mark this historic victory achieved thanks to the Great Al-Fateh Revolution and its leader. This morning squadrons of the Libyan Arab Air Force from the various military bases gave large-scale air displays, flying in brilliant formation in the skies of our country, with pride, challenge, and confidence.

Tobruk witnessed a large popular celebration this morning to mark this anniversary. At the Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir Air Base, a military parade for the units of the vanguards of the armed people and an air display by the Libyan Arab Air Eagles were held. Many speeches were made saluting the Great Al-Fateh Revolution which had achieved the evacuation and handed over authority, wealth, and arms to the Libyan Arab people who took control of its land.

They also praised the giant civil and revolutionary achievements of the Great AL-Fateh Revolution and confirmed their eternal adherence to the eternal thesis of the *Green Book* in its three volumes. The big popular celebration was attended by masses of the basic popular congresses, popular committees, and the vocational congresses in Tobruk.

AL-SAFIR Interviews Al-Qadhdhafi, Part Two

PM281301 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 21 Mar 85 pp 8,9

[Part two of interview given to *AL-SAFIR* by Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, conducted by Talal Salman with the participation of Muhammad Mashmushi, Sa'd Mahyu, Hassan Haydar, and Yasir Ni'mah "in Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's tent in Libya;" date not given]

[Excerpts] This part of the long interview with 1 September Revolution leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi began with a discussion about the heroic national resistance movement in southern lebanon and the strong blows it is dealing to the Israeli enemy. In this regard Al-Qadhdhafi expressed high admiration and appreciation for the men who are pursuing the enemy everywhere and daily inflicting heavy losses on his forces.

The discussion then moved to the question of the Iranian revolution, of sectarianism in the area and in Lebanon, and of the dangers threatening Arab nationalism as a consequence.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said :his regard:

There is a real danger to Arab nationalism because of sectarianism. To be fair, it must be said that the Iranian revolution has kindled sectarianism in the Arab homeland despite itself; it was not even its decision to do so. We, of course, support it because it is a revolution, but it must be said that it has kindled sectarianism in the Arab homeland. Unfortuantely the Arab nation could be dismembered because of sectarianism. First it would be divided into Muslims and Christians; the Christians in Lebanon, Iraq, and Syria will be thinking of a Christian state. The Phalangists now consider themselves the expression, the pioneers of Christianity in the Arab east.

Then the Muslims will begin to be divided into Shi'ites and Sunnis. The Arab nation from the Mediterranean — from Lebanon — to the Gulf would become split. After that the Shi'ites and the Sunnis will be subdivided into creeds; the Shi'ites between the Ithna'ashariyah [followers of the 12th Imam] creed and other creeds, and the Sunnis into Hanafi, Shafi'i Hanbali, Maliki and other creeds.

I do not mean that we are going to do this, but some other people will try if they can. This is the scheme. The Iranian revolution has encouraged the Shi'ites in the Arab homeland, who have

regarded its uprising as a revolution in the name of Islam; not against the Sunnis but against reaction and against the United States. But some have been encouraged to advance under such slogans [as published]. Lebanon is now divided. The credit for struggle there, of course, goes to the Shi'ites and to Nabih Birri. Birri is in the resistance and in the liberation movement, although he is against us.

Nabih Birri and his group do not meet with any Libyan, but I still consider him the hero of the liberation of southern Lebanon, and I consider the Shi'ites to be the liberators regardless of what is said about the resistance. The Shi'ite proves his heroism when he falls martyr. Nobody else except the Shi'ite would load a car with explosives and blow it up himself. In fact it was the Iranian revolution that kindled this sense in the Shi'ites. The resistance of the other Arabs and the Lebanese is weak. This is clear. This is Nabih Birri. There may be a Hezbollah party, but the fact is that they are all Shi'ites.

Question: But there are Sunnite elements within Hezbollah.

Answer: Maybe, but I know that the advocation of extremism and suicide operations belongs to the Shi'ites. We do not deny this. Nabih Birri is a hero, and so are other leaders such as Al-Musawi.

Question: We have previously discussed with you the question of Islam, Christianity, and Arabism. It is known that there is a theory which says that every religion is handed down to a particular nation and that the religion of the Arabs is Islam. There is an objection to this theory among both Christians and Muslims, who consider this a denial of the Arabism of Christians. These people were Christians before Islam and when Islam came they continued with their religion. They are Arabs, and their national identity is established before and since Islam.

It was observed that in your recent speech you dealt with this issue from a more nationalistic angle, if I may say so. Is what we have understood correct?

Answer: Allow me to read you a message from the *Green Book* on this subject.

Obviously the national factor or the social factor means that we the Arabs are one single community, one single nation. Which means that we have a nationality that binds us together; the fact that we are Arabs binds us together socially. If a foreign community tries to interfere, then we will resist it. This is conflict in history: one nationality trying to dominate another and one community trying to dominate another.

Why are the Kurds fighting? Because other nationalities have dominated them for many years. They are an independent Kurdish nation; they do not enjoy autonomy either in Iraq, or in Iran, or in Turkey. This is a principled stand. The Kurds must be a Kurdish nation in that area, and that nation should be a sister to the Arab nation, the Turkish nation, and the Persian nation, and should take its place equally among those nations.

What happens from time to time and what disrupts a community is the religious factor. Communities in one single nation embrace different religions, as is the case in Lebanon, where the conflict seems to be Christian-Muslim although in fact we are all Arabs.

There is a danger when one single community does not embrace one single religion. A single community should embrace one religion so that harmony will prevail and so that nationalism and religion are two sides of the same coin.

In fact every nation has a prophet and a holy book. It is clear even in the Koran that no nation has two different prophets and no nation has two holy books. To every nation there is a religion and to every nation there is a law. This is clear.

Jesus was a prophet sent only to the Israelites in order to rectify the laws of the Jewish Moses, but the Jews rejected him, that is, they rejected the rectification. They said: We do not believe in you. Just as the pagan Arabs rejected Muhammad and said to him: We do not believe in you. The Israelites rejected Jesus and wanted to crucify him. They did not kill him or crucify him but imagined that they did; they believed that they crucified Jesus.

When Jesus was expelled by the Israelites who rejected his call, the call was automatically directed toward another nation. It was received by the Roman state that ruled the Arab east then.

And from the Roman state which ruled Palestine Christianity spread abroad and across Europe. Some of the Arab communities, which were small in number, embraced Christianity. The matter probably involved one tribal chieftain or more, and then this religion became that of his descendants by inheritance.

Thus some of the Arabs embraced the religion which the Israelites rejected and so became Christians. Then came Islam. By Islam we mean the Koran and not those yellow, subjective books.

In fact the Koran is an inspiration from God. It does not allow an Arab to belong to any religion other than Muhammad's. The Prophet was not tolerant toward non-Muslim Arabs; he was tolerant toward the other, non-Arab nations that are not Muslims.

The Arabs did the contrary; they left some Arabs to continue to belong to non-Muslim religions while they forced non-Arab nations to embrace Islam. This has caused a disaster for us. They were never supposed to conquer Persia or enter China, the Sind, India, or Andalucia. This is the result now: After 800 years in Andalucia there is not one single Muslim. In fact this was colonialism.

What is the reason for the present problem in Lebanon? The reason is that we are all Arabs there but some of us are Christians and some are Muslims. Take the example of the Ethiopian Falasha Jews; because their religion is different from that of the Ethiopians they have forged ties with the Israelis and the Jewish state. If there were Arab Jews the situation would have been the same, and they would have gone to worship in the promised land.

Had the Maronites embraced Islam there would have been no problem now and there would have been no fifth column.

This is in fact the origin of the ties between the Israelis and the Phalangists. In the final analysis Christianity is the religion of Jesus, who is the prophet of the children of Israel. This is an unnatural situation because the Christians of Lebanon are supposed to be Arabs but, because their religion is not Arab, that is it is not Muslim, they have been exploited by Zionism, which exploits Judaism, and by the Crusade which exploits Christianity when in fact Christianity has nothing to do with the Crusade. Thus Crusade and Zionism are two political movements that have exploited these two religions.

Zionism is the nationalist movement of the Jews; it is in fact a political movement that has exploited the Jews and placed them in this incinerator. They are now suffering daily. They do not feel safe in their homes or schools, on the land or in the air. Whatever is said about the Israelis being strong and able to defeat the Arab armies, they live in fear. It is Zionism that has put them in this hell.

There are groups in occupied Palestine which do not believe in this. They say that they are religious groups who worship God in any place. They say: We have a temple in Jerusalem in which we worship, but why should we fight the Arabs and other peoples?

Question: In other words we can say that the religious factor can create an empire while the national factor creates a national state, which means that the universality of a religion is the political expression of an empire, but when the empire is dismantled into nationalities each nationality sets up its own state and so the empire ends.

Answer: Prophecy has nothing to do with politics or the state. The Islamic state that was set up was created by those who came after the Prophet. This was a civil, subjective authority and was not holy because it was the creation of an ordinary person and because the Prophet had no deputies. The question of religion has nothing to do with politics. Religion in the first place is believing in the supernatural; it is belief in God, in the day of reckoning, and so on. In order to achieve this there is a set of orders and basics that constitute human moral values which are not political, such as peace, fraternity, equality, justice, compassion, and mercy. These human moral values are the ones which religions talk about.

In fact when we deal with the supernatural and with morals there is no connection whatever between them and politics. First of all there is no morality in politics. Politicians lie to each other. Maneuvering, cheating, and deception are examples. When we deal with politics the supernatural becomes irrelevant. It is impossible to deal with politics and compare these with the supernatural. Therefore, the political factor and all that is related to it is a subjective problem facing the human communities on this planet — a problem which they have the right to resolve the way they deem fit.

We here advocate the jamahiriyah system, the establishment of the state of the masses, eradicating injustice and exploitation, implementing the theory of the masses, and radically solving political, social, and economic problems in accordance with a democratic, revolutionary theory regardless of the religion embraced by the masses. This has nothing to do with religion. For example, a house belongs to whoever lives in it. The house in which you live must belong to you; but you may not own another house and rent it.

All the states that consist of several nationalities, for religious, economic, military, or subjective ideological reasons, will be torn by nationalist conflict until every nationality becomes independent; that is, the social element will inevitably triumph over the political element. For example, India, the Soviet Union, and Yugoslavia will in the future be torn by nationalist conflict. In other words, the nationalities will begin and in fact have begun to emerge in Yugoslavia following Tito's death and are working for independence.

Question: This means that you are reassuring us about the future of Lebanon. It will not be torn apart since it consists of one single nationality despite the difference in religion.

Answer: Yes, nationalism will in the end triumph in Lebanon. The problem now is that one community of the same nationality is embracing two religions.

Question: Had there not been a Maronite political movement, the religious factor would not have existed.

Answer: But this grows only in ground that is fertile for its growth. This political Maronite movement includes Christians and Muslims. It has exploited the economic situation of both the Christians and the Muslims and established itself as a political movement. It has exploited this situation the same way Zionism did with the question of who is or is not Jewish. It exploited this issue and established itself as an independent political movement. If there was not a similar situation in Lebanon the Maronite political movement would not have existed in the first place.

Question: Our question now concerns the relation between the state of the masses and the Third World theory on the one hand, and the state in the Islamic concept on the other.

Answer: First of all I am not the author of the *Green Book*. What I did was to compile axioms and incontrovertible principles; the book is the result of reading and researching history. It is the sum total of what has happened. Why is one man happy and another not? One is happy because he is free. What does freedom mean? It means freedom from want.

The *Green Book* does not say that we should do this or that. I have written a military book, for which I am responsible, but the *Green Book* is not my responsibility; it is the responsibility of human heritage. From my viewpoint the *Green Book* sees the chronic problem in the problem of democracy, of power, and of economic difficulties. This is the cause of conflict in the world.

Question: Where does the United States figure in this situation?

Answer: We have sown the seeds of fragmentation there by awakening the blacks and the red Indians. In the distant future the United States could fragment and become small states. Those of French origin will establish a state and those of Saxon origin

will establish a state of their own. The blacks and the red Indians have begun moving. I have told them that they should become independent. This is their objective now, but they cannot say that they want to fragment the United States; rather they want their rights. There are black communities and states with black majorities, and there are companies especially for the blacks. What does this mean? Clearly it is feeling one's way to independence.

Question: Are those sufficient grounds for the establishment of a state?

Answer: The black color in this case is an expression of a nationality; black means Africans. The colors divide the world into races: yellow, white, and black. This was the case when Asia once dominated the world. It is known that immigration of the yellow race, which formed the populations of Hungary and the Serb countries, originated in Asia. This was followed by the domination of the white race, the era of Western colonialism. There were conflicts between Italy, France, the Netherlands, and Portugal over the colonies, but they all belonged to the white race. Despite the conflict the white race dominated the world and colonized it in its entirety. We now expect the blacks to have their turn. The blacks, as the *Green Book* says, will dominate the world. First of all they are increasing in large numbers. But despite the problems that this growth in number creates, such as poverty, this is bound to happen in the future. The Africans, that is the blacks, are not affected by the modern systems; they procreate in communal marriages.

This race will grow in number and I believe that civilization, industrial progress, war, and nuclear power will weaken the present dominant white race. There will come a stage in which this race will be exhausted. The "Green" movement and the "hippies" are factors of exhaustion and fragmentation of the white communities.

We believe that the black march is on the rise through the black communities in Europe and the United States. This will happen even after 100 years, which is a short time in history and for the races. After a few hundred years — maybe 2,000 or 3,000 years — we will find that the color of the world is black. In the white world there is birth control while in the black world there is increasing population. Within every race there are religions, nationalities and interests. We Arabs could be included in the yellow race, an extension of the yellow race. We came from Asia, from the Arabian Peninsula, but the Arabian Peninsula inhabitants probably came from China. Now Vietnam and China are fighting, despite the fact that they are from the yellow race which once dominated the world before it was replaced by the white race.

The greater the population, the more the need for jamahiriyah, because a group of individuals in Beijing or Delhi cannot control a billion people. The masses solve their own problems and form executive and legislative authorities through the people's congresses. The masses get together in people's congress, elect people's committees, and run their affairs. They ultimately all meet at national level. It is just impossible to have just one government or, say, one education minister in India or one health minister in China. There is more need for jamahiriyah there than in Libya.

That should also be the solution in Lebanon. There is a struggle for power there, as to who should rule. Should it be the Phalangists, the Nationalist Forces, one particular sect, the Muslims or the Christians? The struggle for power is continuous and comes to the surface every now and then. Armed conflict occurs periodically as in 1958, 1975, and 1982. Any solution achieved now will be farcical, and we would expect the struggle for power to be renewed in 10 years time. It will not end unless a radical solution is found. That solution is the jamahiriyah system.

When we meet in a people's congress we do so as equals, not as employer and employees, because it would be false democracy if the employer said yes to something without you being free to say no because you feared that, with him, for example, as the landlord and you as the tenant, you would be jeopardizing your relations with him, which are based on exploitation. He could put up the rent, evict you from the apartment, or exert any kind of pressure on you. That deprives you of your freedom. Freedom is what matters. To be your own master and to express your opinion freely in the congress and determine your own fate, you should be free. How? By having your needs freely fulfilled. That would eliminate the pressures and restrictions. What are your needs? Your home must be your own, hence the slogan "a house belongs to whoever lives in it." A home is looked after by its occupants. A car belongs to the person who drives it, and the land belongs to all. Everyone is a partner, no one is a hired hand. There is no longer such a thing as a person working for someone else. Everyone is entitled to his product. So the main problem has been solved and real democracy has been established in its economic sense.

That leaves the question of arms. Firearms are like revolution and authority. Whoever has them can use them as a means of controlling others. Army soldiers are in fact unjustly treated because they have to die on behalf of the civilian population. There should be no delegation in death. The homeland belongs to all and its defense is everyone's responsibility, especially when it is shared equally by everyone. Everyone defends his home, products, land, and car. Wealth is no longer in the hands of exploiting feudalists for whom we are supposed to die. That makes training compulsory for everyone and it marks the end of the regular army which could stage coups d'etat or become repressive. The members of the regular army really get a rough deal because they have to die for us. If there must be death, then all are equal even in that respect. The arms belong to everyone but that does not mean that everyone should carry arms, as in Chad or Lebanon. Arms should be stored under guard. One sector of the population trains on tanks, another on machineguns, a third on aircraft, and so on. In times of war everyone proceeds to his weapon in an orderly manner. Even the guarding of arms should be taken in turns. In times of war we take up arms to fight. All the people fight. In times of peace we train periodically. That, to a large extent, is what is happening in Switzerland now. There is general military training. Everyone knows when he is due for training.

These are the problems which man faces. When these problems are solved successively, we then have a jamahiriyah. After that, whether you believe in God or not becomes a personal matter. We do not come and say: let there be an Islamic state, and we do not arrange everything after the example or on the basis of

Islam. The truth is that, if we involved religion in politics, society would achieve no progress.

Question. What point have you reached in implementation?

Answer: We now have people's congresses and people's committees everywhere. The problem of wealth has been solved. There is no such thing as a Libyan employer or hired hand any more. There are no rented homes or cars. The Army is engaged in training the people after dividing them into sectors. Once all the people are capable of carrying arms, the regular Army will disappear. It is now beginning to disappear gradually with the people replacing it. We now rely more on battalions of armed people than on Army battalions. In the future the public will be the Army. In other words it will be possible for 50,000 people to be under arms every week or month, and they could then be replaced by another ready force of 50,000. When war breaks out the entire population takes up arms, each one defending his own area with the Jamahiriyah divided into defense areas capable of repulsing aggression. An armed population cannot be defeated.

In Lebanon there are now many signs of the jamahiriyah system we are talking about. An armed population cannot be defeated. If there was a strong regular army and a strong government in Lebanon, the Israelis would not have left it without imposing very humiliating terms similar to the stable David (Camp David) terms. They are now, for the first time, leaving unconditionally. Any terms they tried to dictate to the Lebanese Government were defeated by the people because the people are free and there is no government to prevent them from fighting. Everyone took up arms and went to the south. That situation provides the evidence that armed people cannot be defeated. If the Arab nation were to get rid of the governments and regular armies, no power on earth would be able to defeat it. The United States cannot throw itself into a sea of ants, each one nibbling at it from one side or another. Look at Lebanon, the smallest and weakest Arab state — I am referring to the population size. Without government or army the people themselves took the initiative, resisted, and managed to defeat the Israeli war machine. The Israelis are withdrawing in horror. The countries with strong armies and governments, such as Egypt, indulge in bargaining.

Question: There are some observations regarding a number of issues. The first is that in your speech to the General People's Congress you repeated something which you said before but which never materialized, namely that Libya is open to all the Arabs and that Libya is the state of all the Arabs. We were bitten in the past. You say something and the airport passport officers do exactly the opposite. It reached a point where we sometimes wished that you would not declare Libya open to all the Arabs, lest more insults were hurled at them at the airport. Is there any real possibility of checking this regional trend in Libya, especially in dealing with the Arabs?

Answer (laughing): This is similar to the case of the prisoner who was granted amnesty. When the guards heard about it they got hold of him and started beating him up, minutes before he was due to leave prison. When they hear that the Arabs are to be allowed into Libya, they like to use the remaining hours to wreak vengeance on them at the airport. I will go to the airport myself. In the past I have sent some members of the revolutionary force to the airport to observe. They advised that certain measures should be taken but, no, we will go to the airport and all Arab citizens will be allowed in with just their identity cards (a decision to that effect was later issued and announced by the media).

Question: A small point for discussion. Recently, regulations have been tightened regarding the transfer of money, residence, exit, and reentry. In the past year permits were given for the transfer of only 30 percent of salary. So, in practical terms, no Arab is enthusiastic about working in Libya because the money he is allowed to transfer is much less than he gets in his own country.

Answer: Even Libya has a hard currency problem because that affects its reserves considerably. There is also a problem regarding a person who comes to work, saves money, and transfers it to his country.

The United States, for example, accepts thousands of immigrants annually from all over the world, especially Latin America, but those who go to the United States, unlike those who come to Libya, become American citizens as soon as they enter the country. They do not say: We will work here for you, save some hard currency, and then take it out with us, or we will work here for you and then go back to our respective countries. Some 10,000 Egyptian experts emigrated to the United States after 1967. I have met one of them. He told me: We have become Americans.

That is how I want the Arabs to come to Libya. I want them to say: We want to stay, and I want to bring their children and families to stay here, because it is difficult when someone just wants to work and transfer money abroad. There is a delicate balance, in other words. As regards foreign countries — Bulgaria, for example — companies come in accordance with contracts. The Arabs come individually, but the law applies to all.

Question: Why should not the number of foreigners be reduced and the number of Arabs increased?

Answer: At present there are more Arabs than foreigners. Most of them are Egyptian.

Question: Has production increased since the implementation of the "partners, not hired hands" slogan?

Answer: That slogan has not been completely generalized yet. The experiment has been introduced in some factories. When it is generalized and when the workers really become partners in production, we will then be able to answer that question. We have found an answer to the question of incentives because, so long as we get a share of the production and not money, then the more effort we make, the bigger share we get, and vice versa. The application of this slogan would certainly lead to more production.

Question: We sometimes hear you criticizing and blaming the Libyans for not being sufficiently productive. Has the practical implementian of the measures or arrangements stemming from your theory motivated the Libyans as producers, and has it made them more productive and eager to work and produce?

Answer: Yes, I can see that the country is moving along the road of production, and we observe and motivate. Much work is being done by the revolutionary committees and the people's committees. We are really moving forward on the production road. An observer would see that areas of the army camps are cattle and poultry farms producing meat, milk, eggs, and vegetables. There is competition between the various camps as to which one is more productive and self-sufficient.

Army Commander Meets PDRY Defense Minister

LD281436 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli 27 Mar (JANA) — A meeting took place today between Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and Brigadier Salih Muslih Qasim, member of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Party and minister of defense in the Democratic Republic of Yemen.

The meeting was attended by a number of technicians from both sides.

Somali Rebel Leader Arrives in Tripoli 27 March

LD282236 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 27 Mar (JANA) — Colonel 'Abdallah Yusuf, leader of the Democratic Front for Salvation in Somalia, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon at the head of a front delegation to attend the meeting of the Pan-Arab Command of the Revolutionary Forces in the Arab Homeland.

MOROCCO

Further Reportage on Visit of Polish Official

Received by Prime Minister

LD281351 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Rabat 28 Mar (MAP) — The Moroccan Prime Minister Mohamed Lamrani last night received in Rabat Mr Roman Malinowski, chairman of the Polish United Peasant Party and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish Republic, who was accompanied by the Polish ambassador to Morocco, Josef Klasa.

During this meeting the prime minister and the Polish guest discussed the friendly relations between the two countries and ways of developing and widening the bilateral cooperation. The Moroccan prime minister praised Moroccan-Polish relations in all fields and expressed his satisfaction with the level of cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides also reviewed issues of mutual interest and issues of the hour at the [words indistinct]

Saudi Foreign Minister Departs 28 March

LD281558 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, left Marrakech Manarah Airport today. He was received last night by His Majesty King Hassan II and gave him a personal message from his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi foreign minister was seen off by Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and information; 'Ali al-Qabbani, Saudi ambassador in Rabat; and Mustafa Tariq, his majesty's governor of Marrakech Province.

SUDAN

Further Reportage on Khartoum Demonstrations

Arrest Warrants Issued

LD291042 Khartoum SUNA in French 0900 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Spellings of names as received]

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Mar (SUNA) — State security has issued an arrest warrant for 17 members of the Muslim Brotherhoods who have fled:

1. 'Ali Osman Mohd Taha
2. Mahdi Ibrahim Mohd
3. Ibrahim al-Sanosi
4. Dr al-Taj Fadelalla
5. Dr 'Ali al-Haj
6. Fadelella al-Tom
7. Muhammad Taha Mohd Ahmad
8. Amin Benani Neo
9. Bashir Adam Rahmah
10. Amin Hassan Omar
11. Al-Tigani 'Abd al-Ghadir
12. Khalid Hassan Ibrahim
13. Omar al-Amin Husayn
14. Muhammad Ahmad Tajir
15. Muhammed 'Abdallah Jarel Nabi
16. Motasim 'Abdallah
17. Muhammad Awad al-Baroud.

Security Communique Issued

JN281620 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1448 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA) — We have received the following communique from the national capital's public security department: Needless to say, the national capital has recently been teeming with loafers, beggers, vagabonds, and persons of unknown identities. This has prompted the National Security Council to set up a higher committee to clear the national capital of such people. The committee has seriously begun to tackle its task. However, the humanitarian circumstances resulting from the drought that has hit several parts of the country caused it to temporarily suspend this task.

On Tuesday morning, 26 March 1985, following the president's decision against Muslim Brotherhood leaders who broke the pledge they made before God, a group of students from the Omdurman Islamic University staged a demonstration on Al-Arba'in Street in Omdurman. Later, the demonstration proceed to Al-Mawridah, where it was soon infiltrated by Muslim Brotherhood elements. The public security forces immediately dispersed the demonstration. However, vagabonds exploited the situation and roamed the Omdurman bazaar and industrial zone in small groups, carrying out several acts of arson and sabotage for the purpose of looting. However, the security forces confronted these vagabonds, arrested several of them, and took control of the situation.

On Wednesday morning, 27 March 1985, some 150 students from the Institute of Technology staged a demonstration through 'Abd al-Latif Street, University Street, and Al-Qasr Street. Later, they gathered at Abu Janzir Square and (Al-'Aqrabi) Market in Khartoum. The security forces dispersed the demonstrators and detained a large number of them. Again vagabonds exploited the situation and began hurling stones passersby and carrying out acts of sabotage. They destroyed a large number of private cars and smashed the windows of banks and stores. They caused the death of a 1-year-old child, assaulted innocent citizens, and set several gas stations on fire. The saboteurs operated in scattered groups that immediately vanished upon the arrival of the security forces. However, the security forces arrested several of these vagabonds, who were caught redhanded while looting stores. Summary courts were immediately set up and began their work. The courts tried 300 vagabonds and issued various sentences against them.

While reassuring the citizens that they are in full control of the situation, the security forces announce that they will not hesitate to deal firmly with anyone who tampers with the citizens' lives and properties.

The security forces will soon resume their campaigns to clear the national capital of all suspect elements that engage in sabotage in order to protect the people and their resources. God grants success.

Security Statement on Arrests

EA281651 Khartoum SUNA in English 1626 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rajab 6, 28 Mar — Various jail terms have been meted out to some 300 saboteurs who have caused untold destruction to public and private properties Tuesday and Wednesday in the national capital towns of Khartoum and Omdurman, a security statement said today.

In the wake of President Numayri's decision to curb the Moslem Brotherhood organization activities, a group of sympathetic students from the Islamic university in Omdurman took into [as received] one of the main streets to demonstrate. They were joined by vagrants and vagabonds who, after marching in the streets, went to the popular market shopping center and the industrial area causing fires in some places and attempts to loot. But the security forces dispersed them and brought the situation under control, the national capital security statement announced.

On Tuesday in Khartoum, meanwhile, students in the Khartoum polytechnic colleges also came out into the streets with the anti-social elements in their midst and went about stoning passersby, breaking car shields and attacking some banks fronts and the commercial center injuring many citizens and causing the death of a year-old baby. An attempt they made to set fire to a petrol station failed, the statement said.

The saboteurs were conducting their destructive work in the form of pockets grouped here and there dispersing at the appearance of security forces, the statement added. They were eventually overcome by the security forces and a great number was arrested and tried yesterday, it went on.

However, the statement assured the citizens and affirmed that the situation is now firmly under control and said a measure to empty the national capital from vagrants will soon be lanched.

University Examinations Suspended

EA281653 Khartoum SUNA in English 1630 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA) — The administration of Cairo University in Khartoum today decided to suspend all examinations of Cairo University in Khartoum indefinitely.

Embassy in Kuwait on Riots

LD281505 Kuwait KUNA in English 1430 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, March 28 (KUNA) — The Sudan Embassy here Thursday confirmed reports of riots in Khartoum and its twin-city Omdurman and the destruction of public and private properties but described the popular uprising as "riots and sabotage." The statement said the police brought the situation under control and that life returned to normal since last night in the two cities which together group close to two million inhabitants.

The embassy statement telephoned to KUNA by Ambassador Muhammad 'Abd al-Fatah Babtout [spelling of name as received] in the early afternoon conflicts with reports carried Thursday by the international wire that violence erupted anew in the two cities for the third day running today and that the Army was called in to quell the uprising.

Babtout said that Secretariat of [words indistinct] party, the Sudanese Socialist Union, whose offices were burnt down yesterday by the demonstrators, has appealed to the citizens to "be vigilant and protect public properties and foil the chance for the peoples' enemies".

The statement said the demonstrations were started Tuesday by some political elements led by the Muslim brothers, whom Numayri kicked out of office three weeks ago, and were joined by sympathizers but the situation was brought under control Wednesday evening and the international airport was operating normally Thursday.

Trade Union on Vigilance

EA281557 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The General Federation of Sudanese Workers Trade Unions, issued a statement today calling on the working masses to be vigilant and cautious in the present circumstances. The statement called for solidarity and cooperation to curb the saboteur groups who are trying to destroy public and private property to halt work and production. The statement called on the working masses to take care of their places of work and installations in fulfillment of their national responsibilities.

Martyrs Day Celebrations Scheduled for 29 Mar

JN281502 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA) — Sudan will celebrate Martyrs Day tomorrow, Friday, 29 March 1985. The Regular Forces Committee has issued a statement on this occasion. It stressed that the Regular Forces will keep the pledge to protect the revolution and the homeland.

The statement stressed that the plots being hatched against Sudan and its people will only increase our determination to continue the struggle and to adhere to principles until Sudan takes its natural position among nations as a stable country that advocates peace and stands against hegemony and containment.

The statement hailed the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the sake of the homeland. The statement said that the march will continue and that the leader will continue to be a great leader, God willing. The statement pointed out that the overt and covert plots against Sudan and its people will be confronted by all the Sudanese people's factions. It asserted that the banner of freedom will remain high to prove that the people are genuine and the Sudanese nation is deep-rooted. The statement added that the Regular Forces will continue to offer scores of martyrs so that Sudan will remain united, stable, and strong, and so that the banners of peace, security, and unity will continue to flutter in its sky.

Armed Forces Pledge Allegiance

EA281743 Khartoum SUNA in English 1622 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar — The nation will celebrate tomorrow Friday the Martyrs' Day, which coincides with the 29th March. The Regular Forces Committee has released a statement on this occasion in which it stressed the Regular Forces commitment to preserve the country and revolution. The statement also hailed the memory of martyrs who sacrificed their souls for the sake of the nation's unity and territorial integrity.

Numayri To Address 6 Apr Cooperative Meeting

EA281910 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] On 6 April the leader president, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, will address the third national cooperative conference at the Friendship Hall in Khartoum at the culmination of a 5-year period replete with many great cooperative achievements as represented by the approval of the Cooperation Law of 1982 and the establishment of the Islamic Cooperative Development Bank.

During this period the cooperative organization was changed in keeping with the regional government law. Extensive cooperative activities took place in local and external spheres relating to agriculture, industry [words indistinct].

SPLA Radio: Police Ordered To Fire on Demonstrators

EA281553 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] According to reports reaching SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] Radio, a big demonstration took place yesterday in Khartoum against Numayri's government. The reports said that nearly 1,000 people, most of them students, participated in the demonstration, protesting against the increase in food prices and the economic policies pursued by the regime in Khartoum. Similar demonstrations have been reported to have taken place in Omdurman, where several hundreds from the Islamic university in Omdurman, protested against the Khartoum government.

Radio SPLA has learned from a reliable source that the regime in Khartoum has ordered the police to open fire as from today onwards on demonstrators protesting against Numayri's government.

SPLM Laws To Be Applied in 'Liberated Areas'

EA281858 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Brother Martin Majer Gai, member of the SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] Executive Committee and secretary for revolutionary justice affairs and administration, has told Radio SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] that the time has now come to begin applying SPLM laws in liberated areas, because there are no authorities of [words indistinct] in these areas.

SPLM members must therefore administer these liberated areas in accordance with SPLM law. The SPLM members are called upon to treat the citizens with justice and to respect their dignity and protect their property, because this revolution came into existence to change the situation and to improve the citizens living conditions.

TUNISIA

Moroccan Foreign Minister Received by Bourguiba

LD281251 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Carthage 28 Mar (TAP) — President Habib Bourguiba this morning received at his office at the Carthage presidential palace the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, Abdellatif Filali. The meeting was attended by Mohamed Mzali, the Tunisian

prime minister; Beji Caid Essebsi, minister of foreign affairs; and the ambassadors of the two countries.

Holds Talks With Mzali

LD282242 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Mr Mohamed Mzali, the prime minister and interior minister, received Dr Abdellatif Filali, the Moroccan foreign minister, at Government House in the Qasabah this afternoon. Mr Filali said that he had fruitful talks with Mr Mohamed Mzali on the strong fraternal ties between the two countries, which are reinforced by the close personal links between the Supreme Combatant President Habib Bourguiba and Mr Mohamed Mzali on the one hand, and King Hassan II and Moroccan Prime Minister Mr Karim Lamrani on the other hand.

He said that he exchanged views with Mr Mohamed Mzali on bilateral relations of cooperation in various fields, and on ways of further strengthening these relations. He stressed that the scope for Tunisian-Moroccan cooperation is very good and a source of optimism.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD282252 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid Essebsi yesterday evening held talks at his office with his Moroccan counterpart Abdellatif Filali.

After the meeting which lasted for nearly 2 hours the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs stated that he had discussed with Mr Beji Caid Essebsi all issues concerning the two countries and the situation in the Arab Maghreb. He pointed out the determination of the two sides to consolidate bilateral cooperation in all fields and stated that a decision was taken to convene the joint Tunisian-Moroccan committee which will take the appropriate decisions and implement the signed agreements.

The Moroccan minister added that the talks are an opportunity to exchange viewpoints about the regional issues, especially the edification of the Greater Arab Maghreb. He expressed his satisfaction with the spirit of fraternity and understanding which prevailed over the talks and with the results reached. He also expressed the hope that [words indistinct] the Tunisian-Moroccan cooperation.

The meeting was attended by Mr Mahmoud Mestiri, secretary of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the ambassadors of both countries.

WESTERN SAHARA

Ministry States SDAR To Take Part in OAU Session

LD290006 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] A statement issued by the Saharan Ministry of Information said that the SDAR, as a member of the OAU, considers that no one outside the African framework should interfere in the internal affairs of the countries participating in the Arab-African ministerial council, which will be held in Libya this coming April. The SDAR stresses anew its resolution to participate in all the meetings and conferences which concern the member-countries of the OAU.

The ministry stressed that preparations for the Arab-African conference led to rumors and indignified stances concerning the participation of the SDAR, which constitute unacceptable pressures and interference in the internal affairs of Africa. The statement pointed out that these pressures are an insult to Africa and the OAU resolutions, and are aimed at dividing the African-Arab peoples.

The statement added that these schemes are plotted against the SDAR, a full member of the OAU and against Africa and its organization.

East African Ministers Discuss Regional Cooperation

EA281232 Nairobi KNA in English 0752 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Arusha, 27 Mar (KNA) — Ministerial delegations from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda held another negotiating session in Arusha from 25 to 26 March, 1985.

In their discussions, which were held under the chairmanship of the mediator, Dr V. Umbrict, the ministers disposed of a number of outstanding items arising out of the East Africa Community mediator agreement. These included the question of amounts owed to the East African governments by the British Government, under the terms of the pensions take-over agreement for former community staff and issues pertaining to the East African Airways.

The principal purpose of the ministerial meeting was to enable the delegations to consider future regional cooperation. A very comprehensive exchange of views took place and an understanding was reached on the framework within which future cooperation will be pursued. The ministers identified possible areas of future cooperation which included cooperation in research, transport and communications and tourism and wildlife. The meeting entrusted the ministries and organizations directly concerned in each state to work out appropriate arrangements for cooperation.

The ministers considered need for a regional coordination office and decided in principle to set up such an office after the details have been agreed upon.

Finally, the ministerial meeting held informal discussion with an EEC delegation headed by Mr G. Livi, director, east and southern Africa, for an informal exchange on ways and means through which the EEC might support regional projects in the three states. The EEC delegation offered to sponsor a seminar of senior executives from Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda to clarify on the potential and means for cooperation between EEC and the East African states.

Kenya was represented by a minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Peter Nyakiamo; the minister for tourism and wildlife, Mr Andrew Omanga; the minister for commerce and industry, Mr Peter Okondo; the minister for transport and communication, Mr Arthur Magugu; the attorney general, Justice Matthew Muli; and an assistant minister for finance and planning, Mr Philip Odupoy.

The Tanzanian side included the minister of state, international and regional cooperation, office of the president, Ndugu M.S. Nyanganyi; minister for communication and works, Ndugu J. Malecela; deputy minister for finance, Ndugu S.A. Kibona; and the Tanzanian high commissioner to Kenya, Ndugu J. Lusinde.

Those representing Uganda included the minister for regional cooperation, Mr S. Tewungwa, and the minister for justice, who is also the attorney general, Mr S.O. Ariko.

The delegations were accompanied by senior officials and experts.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan: Villagers Repulse Attack by Soldiers

EA281258 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Troops loyal to the terroristic regime of Muhammad Siad Barre launched an attack on the civilian population in (Bandiradley) village in the Galcaio District, Mudugh Region, but were repulsed by the villagers, who killed 6 soldiers and wounded 10 others. The brutal attack by the Mogadishu clique on the people living in (Bandiradley) village was repulsed by the people. In the attack on the village, which took place on 23 March, two civilians were martyred and three others were wounded.

UGANDA

President Calls for More UK Military Training Aid

AB281624 Paris AFP in French 1223 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Kampala, 28 Mar (AFP) — Ugandan President Milton Obote has asked the British Government to prolong and intensify the military training assistance it is giving to the Ugandan Army, *MKOMBOZI*, the monthly magazine of the country's Armed Forces, said in its latest issue. *MKOMBOZI*, which was citing Minister of State for Defense Peter Otai, specified that the Ugandan president asked for the strengthening of the team of British military advisers in Uganda and for the extension of its mission to other units of the Armed Forces.

These advisers, stated the magazine, have been exercising their activities in Uganda since the beginning of 1984 under a contract which will expire next May and which had been concluded in accordance with the contract existing between the Ugandan Army and nine Commonwealth countries. The training — which concerns both the soldiers and the officers and which centers on anti-guerrilla operations — is given at the Infantry School at Jinja, 80 km east of Kampala.

According to the magazine, Mr Otai — who was speaking at the end of a military parade and in the presence of some soldiers under training — affirmed that British assistance had made it possible to considerably improve discipline within the Ugandan Armed Forces.

For his part, General Smith Opon-Acak, the Army chief of staff, "bluntly affirmed to the soldiers, who have been given their diplomas after their training, that their capabilities demonstrated during their training would be put to the test in Luwero District," where the Ugandan Army is engaged in the fight against the guerrillas. In the same issue, the magazine said that Gen Acak admitted that antigovernment "dissidents" had stolen 57 rifles, 2 mortars, and 16 cases of antiaircraft ammunition as well as drugs during an attack against the Kabamba Military School (east of Kampala) early this year. The arms, which had been hidden near a river by the guerrillas during their flight, have been recovered by the Army, added Gen Acak, who said that the "dissidents" were not well armed.

CAMEROON

New Missions To Be Opened in Tokyo, Berne

AB271618 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The conference of Cameroonian ambassadors abroad opened this morning under the chairmanship of the minister of foreign affairs. Two new missions will be opened soon in Tokyo and Berne.

GABON

Congo's Sassou-Nguesso Ends Visit, Returns Home

AB260930 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] President Denis Sassou-Nguesso yesterday ended his friendly visit to Gabon and has returned home. Presidents Omar Bongo and Sassou-Nguesso took this opportunity to discuss various issues, among which were their bilateral relations, and, on the international scene, the Chadian conflict. In this connection the two heads of state reaffirmed their desire to see the organization in Brazzaville of a new conference on national reconciliation among the fighting brothers of Chad. This conference, like the previous ones, would be held under the auspices of the OAU.

ZAIRE

Soviet Union Donates Yellow Fever Vaccine

AB271802 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1400 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 26 Mar (AZAP) — Twenty thousand doses of yellow fever vaccine, donated by the USSR Red Cross, were presented to the Department of Public Health on Tuesday by the USSR ambassador to Zaire, Vladimir Filatov. Antiplague, cholera, and typhoid fever vaccines will also be presented soon to the Zairian Government, the Soviet diplomat announced.

Briefs

New Envoy to Belgium — King Baudouin I of Belgium at the Bruxelles Palace on Thursday received the letters of credence of the new Zairian Ambassador to Belgium, Mrs Ekila Liyonda. [Text] [*Kinshasa AZAP in French 0820 GMT 22 Mar 85 AB*]

Envoy From France Departs— Mpinga Kasenda, first vice president of the Standing Committee of the MPR Central Committee, received at the People's Palace on Thursday Jean Kientz, French ambassador to Zaire, who came to bid him farewell at the end of his 3-year diplomatic mission to Zaire. [Text] [*Kinshasa AZAP in French 0815 GMT 22 Mar 85 AB*]

BURKINA

Ghana's Asamoah Meets With President Sankara

AB281743 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Comrade Obed Asamoah, Ghana's secretary for foreign affairs, was received this morning by Comrade Thomas Sankara, president of the Faso. The Ghanaian minister is in Ouagadougou within the framework of the fifth session of the Ghana-Burkina Joint Commission for Cooperation. The president of the Faso and Comrade Asamoah examined ways and means of increasing the political and economic cooperation between the two countries. The observations of the Ghanaian secretary, who was speaking to Issiaka Luc Kourouma, were translated by Comrade Oueba Aboubacar, director of the Office of the president of the Faso.

[Begin recording] [Asamoah in English fading into French translation] As you know, we are here in connection with the fifth session of the Ghana-Burkina Faso Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation and my discussions with President Sankara have centered on ways and means of increasing economic and political cooperation between our two countries.

[Kourouma] Could you tell me at what level the discussions are being held?

[Asamoah] They are at the ministerial level because the two delegations are led by ministers. Now we are examining trading relations with regard to cattle and cereals as well as our relations in the field of health, in particular in regard to contagious diseases. We are also examining the free movement of vehicles between both countries, and the problem of the air links between our two countries.

[Kourouma] Did you examine the issue of electricity supply to our country by Ghana, especially from the Akosombo Dam? If not, will you examine it in the next session?

[Asamoah] As you know, in principle the problem has already been settled. What is left to be solved are practical steps, namely the transportation of electricity from Kumasi to Ouagadougou. For its part, Ghana is doing everything possible to this effect. I believe that Burkina is also doing its best to this effect. So there is no more problem in principle. [end recording]

GAMBIA

Senegal's Envoy Recalled Following Incident

AB280840 Paris AFP in English 0731 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Banjul, March 28 (AFP) — Senegal's ambassador for the past 10 years in Gambia, Mbaye Mbengue, has been recalled by his government and is not expected back, official sources said here Wednesday.

The recall is apparently linked to incidents last month after a Senegalese team beat Gambia in a regional soccer cup match here, and the visitors were reportedly molested afterwards. The envoy, reliable sources said, was believed to have ordered Senegalese soldiers into the hotel where the team was staying, to ensure the players' security, although the hotel was already under the guard of Gambian police.

Gambian President Dawda Jawara, in a recent BBC radio interview, accused Mr Mbengue of distorting the facts, and said the alleged harassement of the footballers was a baseless allegation. Senegal and its tiny neighbor Gambia formed a confederation in December 1981, six months after Senegalese troops put down a coup here at Sir Dawda's request, while he was out of the country.

Reliable sources said Senegal's ambassador in Tunisia, Ibrahima Deguene Ka, would probably replace Mr Mbengue. Mr Ka was formerly secretary general of the Sene-Gambian Permanent Committee.

GHANA

Botchway on IMF, Foreign Aid for Recovery Program

AB281548 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, has given details about Ghana's drawings from the International Monetary Fund toward the country's economic recovery program. In an interview with the GHANA NEWS AGENCY, he said total drawings up to date under the first and second standby arrangements and compensatory financing facility drawing total about $500 million, and under the standby arrangement with the country for the period which ended last August, Ghana drew about $377 million from the fund.

Dr Botchway said it was originally estimated that the funding of the 3-year economic recovery program will be $5.1 billion. In the first 2 years of the program Ghana had to rely a lot more on external assistance than originally envisaged. The country also sought to obtain such assistance on concessional terms in order to ease its debt service burden.

He said at last year's donor conference in Paris, Ghana expressed concern about the lower than expected flow of official development assistance to her and also about the slow disbursement rate of committed funds. The finance secretary said foreign assistance to Ghana has been lower than the average for sub-Saharan Africa, and he is happy that the trend is being reversed. Dr Kwesi Botchway, however, repeated that Ghana sees foreign assistance not as a substitute but as a supplement to her own domestic resources mobilization effort. He hoped that this year and in 1986, there will be more aid from the IMF to enable Ghana to achieve her development projects.

Pacts With Brazil on Economic Cooperation Finalized

AB282030 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Ghana and Brazil have finalized agreements on technical and economic cooperation. Modalities for funding projects under the agreements are, however, yet to be worked out. They include

the rehabilitation of the Asutuare and Komenda sugar factories, a fertilizer formulation plant, the development of irrigation, and the setting up of a soya bean project in the country. These were disclosed to newsmen in Accra today by the secretary for agriculture, Dr Adjei-Marfo, who led a three-man government delegation to Brasilia for the inauguration of the Brazilian president. He said the delegation held fruitful discussions with agricultural experts on food production.

Dr Adjei-Marfo said his ministry will now shift emphasis on the training of middle manpower personnel who are engaged in agriculture. He observed that in Brazil more emphasis is placed on the establishment of individual and community farms and the training of middle level agricultural personnel who actually do the field work. According to the secretary, this arrangement has produced fruitful results.

Dr Adjei-Marfo regretted that most of the state corporations and organizations have been running at a loss over the years. He attributed this to lack of commitment by personnel who manage these organizations. As a result, anything that has the name state attached to it does not produce the desired results as far as production and productivity are concerned.

Dr Adjei-Marfo announced that a team of Brazilian technical experts will soon arrive in the country to study and advise the government on the financing of farmers and food production.

Government Condemns Massacre of Blacks in RSA

AB281726 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The office of the political counselor for the economic development of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution has condemned the continuing massacre of blacks in South Africa last Thursday. In a statement, it said the massacre depicts the true nature of those who constitute the ruling clique in South Africa. It also reflects on the mentality of those outside forces who sustain apartheid.

The office of the political counselor declared: We protest against this heinous crime against the oppressed black people of South Africa and Namibia. Equally, our anger and resentment is directed against those governments who openly and secretly have buttressed the obnoxious regime in South Africa.

The statement said as Ghanaians mourn their dead brothers, they urged that the government must, in concert with other progressive governments in Africa and peace-loving people around the world, find ways to intensify the struggle to end racial discrimination on the continent within the shortest possible time. They will also like the Reagan administration to reconsider its position on the situation in southern Africa, so that it be not said, as is said by today's generation of Africans in respect of Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, that the United States did nothing to help the achievement of independence from colonial rule of southern Africa.

The statement called on South Africa to release from jail the militants and nationalists who are in prison for opposing the evil apartheid system. The United Nations should also step up its efforts toward the eradication of apartheid.

Briefs

Envoy From Indonesia Departs— The outgoing Indonesian ambassador to Ghana, Vice Admiral Yudono Subroto, has called for closer cooperation between developing countries to enable them to solve their problems. He said Third World countries face similar problems and the experiences of one can be useful to another. Vice Adm Subroto, who is based in Nigeria, was speaking to newsmen after he called on a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mr Justice D.F. Annan. [Excerpt][*Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Mar 85 AB*]

IVORY COAST

FRATERNITE MATIN Views Dioulo 'Escape'

AB281250 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 32

[Auguste Miremont editorial: Has Dioulo Anything Else To Hide Apart From the Embezzlement of Funds of Which He Is Accused?]

[Text] Up till now, nobody — in any case no Ivorian — can understand the reason for the escape of Emmanuel Dioulo, the managing director of the General Export-Import Company [Cogexim], who is accused of embezzling securities, swindling, and malfeasance. It is true that all these charges are unbearable for a single man, but we have never thought for a single moment that they would be unbearable for "Le Parrain" [a fictional character accused of dishonesty and craftiness] whose "Cour des Miracles" [group of fawning followers] celebrated his victory only recently. We in fact remember the shouts of joy which hailed the verdict of the magistrates' court: "We have won!," roared the managing director's followers, who rejoiced over a verdict which favored him and which he had contrived. But this happiness was — alas! — short-lived. Once again, "Le Parrain" had proved that he knew how to turn all situations, even the most compromising, to his advantage.

But suddenly, "Le Parrain" — who had accustomed us to the most blustering statements, to spectacular actions, and to acts of defiance — had bowed down — has his luck deserted him? — has packed up his bags quietly and without fuss, which was unusual for him. "Le Parrain" has become "Le Fugitif." Who could have said and who could have believed that the incredible and the comedic could mingle to such an extent? Surely, the "affair between Cogexim and the National Agricultural Development Bank" reserves for us surprises that would be laughable if they were not dramatic. Here we are with a common affair of borrowing involving two commercial organizations — an affair which is getting bogged down because of the intransigence of the borrower, which is heading toward the penal court as the result of an unexpected and questionable verdict, and which is getting off the judicial path because of the shameful escape of the main protagonist in the affair.

Let us try to understand the situation: Apart from the swindling and malfeasance of which he is accused, has the fugitive "Parrain" anything else to hide? Something more serious? If we refer to certain reports now going round and to some blustering statements made by the fallen managing director, we come to certain facts:

1) The compromise proposed by Mr Dioulo to the national authorities through foreign journalists: "Let the authorities stop the court proceedings and I promise to devote myself exclusively to my businesses henceforth," he said.

2) The cheers of the followers of the fugitive "Parrain" following the verdict of the magistrates' court — cheers which were accompanied by the chant of "long live the Second Republic!" It is true that the feeling of elation was created by the happiness of an evening of victory, but does it excuse such exaggerations if nothing was behind it?

3) The 100 or so marabouts called in from certain Arab and African countries since the beginning of this "affair." "Le Parrain" himself engaged in marabout practices in order to raise himself to financial and political heights.

4) The pretensions displayed by "Le Parrain" during his trips in Africa, the United States, and France.

The fugitive "Parrain's" statements and actions showed that he thought he had a great destiny and he was therefore preparing for this destiny by all means with the purpose of piling up what he privately called "my war treasury." Which "war" was the fugitive "Parrain" talking about? He was evidently talking about the succession [to the presidency], for which Emmanuel Dioulo has, since 1980, been creating a "group of followers" whose loyalty he has won by giving them money, which he distributed generously, or through elective functions which the lucky beneficiaries achieved thanks to "American-type election campaigns" during which CFA francs were spent lavishly. Would it be the same this year during the forthcoming elections whose importance is known to everyone? What means and what strategy would certain people adopt in readiness for these events? What internal and external alliances would they form? Is it all this or more that Emmanuel Dioulo wanted to hide by running away?

The comedy has become a tragedy...that of a wounded man with unsatiated appetites. "Those whom Jupiter wants to destroy, he first makes mad," it is said. Is this the case with Emmanuel Dioulo? It is time to put a stop to this nasty serial.

LIBERIA

Doe Dismisses Minister, Suspends NDPL Party Chairman

AB282202 Monrovia ELWA in English 1710 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The chairman of the National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL), who is also a member of the Interim National Assembly, Mr Kekula Kpotoe, has been suspended from the Assembly and the chairmanship of the party by head of state, commander in chief, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe. At the same time, the head of state has banned Mr Kpotoe from all political activities until he can settle his obligations to the Liberian Petroleum Refinery Company [LPRC] in the amount of $448,000. Meanwhile, Mr (Leroy Francis) is to act as chairman of the NDPL.

Also suspended from the assembly for their indebtedness to the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation [LPMC] and LPRC, respectively, are Mr (Philip Dien) and (John Batoua) and Mr Archie Bernard, an Executive Mansion release said in Monrovia today.

In another major move, the head of state has dismissed Agriculture Minister Joseph Boakai and directed him to report to the special task force on debt collection to identify all those whom he credited rice while he served as managing director of the LPMC. It quoted the head of state as saying that during the tenure of Major Boakai as managing director of that corporation, he credited huge amounts of the [words indistinct] to several people without bank guarantees or [word indistinct], much to the embarrassment of government.

The head of state has also ordered the immediate dismissal of Majors (Amos Slanga) and (James C. Westnand) from the special security service and their arrest and confinement to Camp (Beleyala) until they make full settlement of amounts they owe to LPMC and LPRC. Also ordered to be present at Camp (Beleyala) is Mr Moses Glay, who was dismissed recently by head of state Doe from his post as butler. Mr Glay is also indebted to LPMC and LPRC.

Concommitantly, the Liberian leader has directed the chairman of the task force to hold Messrs (Clitus Waterson), Joseph Boakai, and Alexander Jeffy responsible to identify all those whom they extended credits when Mr (Waterson) headed LPRC and Messrs Boakai and Jeffy headed LPMC, respectively. The head of state said that failure on the part of these three individuals to identify those whom they credited, the task force should hold them responsible to pay the debts. Dr Doe has also ordered the special task force to transfer to Camp (Beleyala) all creditors to the various public corporations and banks who do not make full payment of their outstanding debts.

Meanwhile, the head of state has frowned on those who credit and wilfully refuse to pay, thus causing hardship on government. [sentence as heard] He said this type of dishonesty has contributed immensely to the financial difficulties being faced in the nation. Stressing that he will not relent in the present campaign, he said all those involved must consider the magnitude of the current exercise and govern themselves accordingly.

MALI

Libya's Al-Turayki Arrives for Party Congress

AB281005 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The second congress of the Democratic Union of the Malian People [UDPM] opens this morning at 1000. Representatives from many friendly countries have arrived in the country to attend the congress.

Among them is Al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau, who arrived early last night from Tunis. The Libyan envoy, who was welcomed by his Malian counterpart Alioune Blondin Beye, told the press that he came to attend the second UDPM congress and that he is to deliver a message from Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi for General Moussa Traore.

Discussing the situation in Chad, Al-Turayki said that it has not changed and noted that the last OAU meeting in Addis Ababa had asked Congo to convene a reconciliation meeting among all rival factions. Libya endorses Congo's efforts, Mr al-Turayki said, but expressed regret that Mr Habre does not want to attend the conference. The Libyan envoy stressed that all Chadians must come together to find a solution to the tragedy of their country on the basis of the Lagos accords. Then he expressed his country's position on Western Sahara:

[Begin al-Turayki recording] Our policy has not changed. We uphold the idea of a referendum as called for by the 19th summit resolution. We hope that the referendum will be organized as soon as possible so that the Saharans can have the last say. If the Saharan people decide to join Morocco, we will (?endorse) this, because we believe that unity (?remians the major goal). But if the Saharan people decide to be independent, then that is their right. Our position has not changed. We continue to endorse the 19th summit resolution. [end recording]

NIGER

France's Nucci Meets Kountche, Comments on Talks

AB281734 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The head of state, Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, this morning received Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for cooperation and development. Three main issues were at the center of their discussions, Mr Nucci told the Voix du Sahel.

[Begin Nucci recording] We discussed bilateral relations between Niger and France, the major problems facing Africa, such as drought and the economic crisis, as well as burning political issues on the African Continent. Concerning our bilateral relations, President Kountche said many kind things which I do not have to repeat. As a representative of the French Government, I was glad to note a convergence of viewpoints on the problem of development. We took stock of the projects that we have initiated — out of season crop farming — and we reflected on what remains to be done.

President Kountche expressed concern over the country's urgent need this year and in a few months time, of a number of goods that are indispensable for the continuation of the action that has already been initiated. Two hundred tons of corn should arrive in August; 500 tons of potatoes and 100,000 bags of vegetable seeds will continue [words indistinct]. This is a further testimony of France's support to Niger in the effort to overcome this specter of hunger.

The second sector, which concerns you directly, is radio and television. France has decided to equip four reporting teams with various instruments that will be needed for a regionalization of the activities of the television. At the same time we will continue with the extension of the community television network with the installation of 150 rural television sets.

The third sector is that of health. As you know, there is a project to set up resuscitation equipment in the recovery room of Niamey Hospital.

Finally, we discussed the date for the joint commission meeting which will take place in Paris. This will be a very important event for our bilateral cooperation. It should take place from the end of May to the beginning of June. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Minister Says No Political Prisoners in Country

AB281552 Lagos NAN in English 1324 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Lagos, March 28 (AFP) — Nigeria's interior minister, Mohammed Magoro, has denied that there are political prisoners in the country.

Major General Magoro told journalists yesterday in Ilorin, western Nigeria: "It is true that some politicians are in detention. Tribunals try them and release those who are not found to have enriched themselves."

More than 500 people were detained from the country's civilian administration overthrown by the military in the December 1983 coup. About 431 of the detainees have benefited from separate amnesties, while about 40 others have been jailed in a series of corruption trials of officials of the old regime. Deposed President Shehu Shagari is among those still being held.

GUARDIAN Questions Capital Punishment Sentences

AB281305 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *GUARDIAN* takes a look at the sentences passed on some Nigerians for drug trafficking under the miscellaneous offenses Decree No 20 of 1984. The paper sympathizes with the government over the increasing incidents of drugs trafficking and armed robbery in the country. It notes, however, that despite the execution of armed robbers, the perpetrators of the devilish business have not relented their efforts. The *GUARDIAN* therefore pleads with the government to take a hard look at such sentences that involve the termination of life.

ANGOLA

Economic Pact For 1985-90 Signed With USSR

MB290801 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola and the USSR agreed on bilateral economic, technical, and trade cooperation for the 5-year, 1985-90 period in Lubango yesterday.

As a result of the talks begun in Luanda recently by the Angola-Soviet joint intergovernmental cooperation commission, the two countries signed an agreement providing for Soviet participation in the development of food and mining industries, as well as in fishing, construction materials, and health. In this new cooperation agreement, the Soviet side is charged with concluding the construction of hospitals in Lubango and Malanje. The Soviets will also build another hospital in Luanda.

Both parties agreed to build during this period a ship repair facility and an enterprise to produce materials and equipment for the fishing sector and its by-products.

The agreement was signed for Angola and the USSR by Lopo do Nascimento, Angolan minister of planning, and Petr Koshelev, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who were chairing the commission.

The first concrete step under the agreement will possibly be made next week. Soviet specialists will go to Lubango, capital of Huila Province, to begin study on how to improve the supply of water to local residents.

Country To Grant Oil Aid to Guinea-Bissau

MB230443 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Our country has granted a special credit of $2.5 million to Guinea-Bissau to pay for supplying Angola's refined oil products to that friendly country. What is more, Angola has pledged to regularly supply until 1989 oil by-products to Guinea-Bissau, which in exchange would supply to Angola agricultural, industrial, and agro-industrial products. These decisions are contained in two cooperation agreements signed in Bissau after a 5-day visit by Pedro van Dunem "Loi," the Angolan minister of petroleum and energy, to Guinea-Bissau.

The agreements stipulate that in order to compensate for the credit granted by Angola, Guinea-Bissau will facilitate Angolan participation in implementing a number of projects under way in Guinea-Bissau. Likewise, Angola will assist Guinea-Bissau in finding technical and financial partners for implementing its projects.

In the future, the Angolan-Guinean cooperation is expected to extend to the fields of merchant navy, renewed energy, and technical and scientific information. The creation of a joint cooperation commission was also recommended.

SOUTH AFRICA

Le Grange Bans Meetings of UDF, 28 Other Groups

MB291015 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1010 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] Cape Town, March 29, SAPA — The government today banned for three months meetings of the United Democratic Front and 28 other organisations in 18 magisterial districts, mostly in the Eastern Cape. The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, ban, effective from today until June 30, was announced in a government gazette published today.

The districts are: Albawy, Alberton, Alexandria, Adelaide, Bathurst, Bedford, Cradock, Fort Beaufort, Graaff-Reinet, Hankey, Humansdorp, Kempton Park, Kirkwood, Middleburg (Cape), Pearston, Port Elizabeth, Somerset-East and Uitenhage.

Mr le Grange banned meetings in all these magisterial districts by any of the 20 [as received] organisations for the three-month period.

He has also forbidden any person — except as in accordance with Section 65 of the Labour Relations Act of 1956 — to try to persuade people not to attend work, or not to return to their place of employment.

Special permission for meetings can be granted by the minister or a magistrate in accordance with Section 46(3) of the Internal Security Act.

Police Arrest UDF Members in Cape Province

MB282010 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 28 Mar 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The South African authorities are apparently beginning to clamp down on the antiapartheid United Democratic Front [UDF]. It comes in the wake of widespread disturbances in black townships following the killing of 19 people in Uitenhage in the eastern Cape a week ago when police opened fire on a funeral procession. Now police have began arresting UDF members in a series of swoops. Robin White asked Neil Lewis in Durban how many arrests there have been so far.

[Begin recording] [Lewis] In the [word indistinct] there were five more activists in the eastern Cape Province where all the unrest has been taking place have been added to the list, bringing the total numebr of detained to 17.

[White] Now, are these just ordinary UDF membrs or are they leaders of the UDF?

[Lewis] Well, as far as I have been able to establish, there are only three prominent people known. They are the Reverend (Andrew) Stofile, who is the secretary of the UDF branch in that region, Mr Hinsta Siwise, who is a prominent (?attorney), and a UDF activist, (Nxopozana) Botha.

[White] Were these arrests in fact expected?

[Lewis] It is believed that Pretoria is laying the groundwork for the UDF to be outlawed as well as certain of the UDF's affiliates, such as the Congress of South African Students, because the statement issued by President Botha yesterday in the tricameral Parliament said that he had given specific instructions to end the violence in the region. These specific instructions we don't know at the moment, but it could mean that the UDF could either be banned or its top members detained, because Mr Botha and his law minister, Louis le Grange, have already in the past associated the UDF with the ANC.

[White] So the UDF is being blamed for the current unrest?

[Lewis] Well, at this particular juncture the government seems to believe that the UDF was being directed from outside sources and in fact the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Louis Nel, said that outside forces, particularly the ANC, through its five proxy organizations within the country, are orchestrating the unrest.

[White] In fact, does the UDF admit to having any links with the ANC?

[Lewis] The UDF has refused to admit or to say it has any links with the ANC. The organization operates extraparliamentary style and at the (?present) moment is legal and concentrates on peaceful protests. So I think it does not want to be associated with the armed struggle of the ANC, as it would lay itself open to being crushed by the Pretoria government through a banning order. [end recording]

Desmond Tutu Leads UDF Meeting on Uitenhage

MB281500 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1453 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Johannesburg, March 28, SAPA — A police contingent was stationed near and around Khotso House, Johannesburg, today while the United Democratic Front [UDF] was holding a meeting inside in solidary with the Uitenhage shootings.

A police spokesman and spokesmen for the UDF Transvaal region, said Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, had officiated at the meeting during the lunch hour.

"There was a large police contingent in the street outside, but they did not enter the building or take any documents," Mr Valli said. There was no raid. The police spokesman said: "We were present at the building on normal observation duties in the event of any problems developing."

There had apparently been rumours that people would march through the city from Khotso House after the meeting, but by 3 pm it had not materialised.

Bishop Tutu told the meeting that certain statements by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, in the American TV "Nightline" interviews, were untrue. Bishop Tutu said Mr P.W. Botha lacked credibility when he compared whites' identity documents as similar to "pass books" blacks have to carry. Bishop Tutu said Mr Pik Botha was way off the mark when he compared the SA judicial system with that of the US.

The meeting, which was attended by about 250 people, was opened with a prayer by the Rev Reggie Boesak, elder brother of Dr Allan Boesak. Messages of support were also given by other organisations. Bishop Tutu reiterated that he was against all forms of violence.

Boesak Leads UDF Meeting in Cape 27 Mar

MB281928 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Despite the state president's appeal for calm and an adherence to the laws of the country, the United Democratic Front [UDF] held an emotionally-charged meeting at Hanover Park in the Cape last night. [crowd chants slogans] The main speaker was the chairman of the World Council of Reformed Churches and UDF patron, Dr Allan Boesak.

[Begin Boesak recording] We are here to participate in an act of mourning because of the deaths of so many of our people in Uitenhage last week. We must be ready to take our feelings onto the streets of the nation. We must be ready to demonstrate very clearly and very concretely. This government still (?essentially) has not yet learned that in order to be respected, in order to be obeyed, it has to, in the words of the Bible, become the servant of God. But it is not the servant of God. It has rather the character of the beast of the sea that you read about in Revelations. [cheers and applause].

We want the state president to remove himself and his government so that [words indistinct]. [crowd cheers, slogans]

And let us sing our national anthem and let us sing it clearly. [all sing "Nkosi Sikelela Afrika"] [end recording]

Treurnict Expresses Support for Police, Le Grange

MB290601 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] The leader of the Conservative Party [CP], Dr Andries Treurnicht, says the police have an extremely difficult task, but it is important that law and order be maintained. Speaking during a meeting in the Johannesburg City Hall, Dr Treurnicht said the CP lent its fully support to the police in the quelling of unrest.

Turning to the recent incidents in Uitenhage, in which 19 people were killed, he said the party supported the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, in the execution of his task. The CP rejected claims by other parties that the minister should resign.

Dr Treurnicht said South Africans were aware that unrest was being fired by radicals who had no wish to see peaceful cooperation.

Police Officer Says Uitenhage Killings in Self-Defense
MB281143 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1104 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Uitenhage, March 28, SAPA — One of the police officers involved in last Thursday's shooting in Uitenhage said today he believed that they — the police — would have been killed if they had not opened fire on the crowd approaching them.

Warrant Officer Jacobus Wouter Pentz was giving evidence in the Uitenhage Magistrate's Court before the one-man commission of inquiry into the shooting of 19 people in Langa Township outside Uitenhage.

Describing the incident, W/O Pentz said that when the crowd of about 4,000 people approached to within about seven metres of the two Caspir vehicles parked across the road, he had been alarmed at the threatening attitude of the mob.

"I thought we would be overun and killed," he told the commission, chaired by Mr Justice Donald Kannemeyer.

"If we had not fired, we would have been killed. I don't believe there was any alternative but to shoot to defend ourselves," W/O Pentz said.

He told the commission his commanding officer, Lieutenant John Fouche, had given the order to fire when the mob was about seven metres from the police vehicles. The policemen, armed with shotguns, R1 rifles and pistols, opened fire on the mob.

W/O Pentz fired four shots with his pistol at the front line of the crowd but not at individuals, the commission heard.

After the police opened fire, there was chaos, W/O Pentz said. Those in front had tried to retreat while some of the rear members of the crowd continued to move forward.

Eventually the crowd fled and Lieutenant Fouche ordered his men to stop firing.

The police found the leader of the crowd dead in the road some way in front of the police vehicles after the crowd had fled, the commission heard.

After completion of W/O Pentz's evidence-in-chief [as received], Mr Peter Gastrow, PFP [Progressive Federal Party] MP for Durban Central, and representing members of his party in his legal capacity, asked that the commission adjourn until tomorrow morning.

Mr Gastrow said neither he nor the other counsel present were in a position to proceed with an informed cross-examination at this stage.

There were a great many details to be weighed up and there were physical problems in contacting witnesses who were not readily available.

Mr Justice Kannemeyer granted the adjournment saying that while he believed the commission should complete its work urgently, he would not allow this factor to override the proper briefing of counsel.

The hearing continues at 9:30 am tomorrow.

Unrest Continues in Eastern Cape; Death Toll 36
MB280920 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0857 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Pretoria, March 28, SAPA — Three people died in Port Elizabeth yesterday when police and development board guards fired at a crowd attacking the family home of a local councillor, police said today. This takes the toll in the Eastern Cape since last Thursday to 36.

A fourth man, aged 20, died in the West Rand township of Evaton when the son of a councillor who died during unrest last year shot at a group attacking his car.

A police spokesman said from Pretoria that almost 200 people surrounded the New Brighton home of Mrs Ivy Linda, mother of the mayor of Kayamnandi. Two of the attackers died when police and board guards fired birdshot and live ammunition, the spokesman said. A third man died in hospital, while two policemen and another man were injured.

Police used tearsmoke and rubber bullets to disperse hundreds of rioters they said had set up roadblocks in Langa, and others marching through despatch armed with sticks, stones, and pangas.

A white divisional council employee driving through the township of Rozendal, near Uitenhage, was dragged from his vehicle, which was set alight by attackers, the spokesman said. The man was injured but managed to escape.

Police said no arrests had been made after the shooting of Mr Daniel Denaka in Evaton last night. Mr Denaka was among a group which confronted a man whose father died during rioting last year. The spokesman would not name the man.

BEELD on Killings at Uitenhage, Inquiry
MB290616 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 25 Mar 85 p 10

[Editorial: "Uitenhage and After"]

[Text] It is good that a commission of inquiry has been appointed to investigate the tragic shooting at Uitenhage. The incident has undoubtedly caused much harm to South Africa, both internally and abroad, and there is a need for all the facts to be brought to light.

No one, surely, would deny that, in the complex South African situation, it is necessary to maintain law and order. The government's reform program too can only succeed if supported by a bulwark of orderliness. Only those too blind to see and too deaf to hear would refuse to admit that there are people in this country — or organizing from outside — who would leave no stone unturned to plunge the country into violence.

It is significant that even President Reagan of America, in his comment after the shooting, pointed out that there is an element in South Africa which does not want peaceful change, an element which wants to see violence on the streets.

While we are aware of the evil intentions in instigating the black masses to try to undermine order in South Africa, it is a pity that, on the anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings, an incident like Uitenhage could take place which will undoubtedly have our enemies crowing with delight.

It will be the task of the commission of inquiry to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident: such as, whether there was any alternative to shooting; why other methods like sneeze machines and teargas were not used from the start to try to disperse the crowd; why there apparently was a junior officer in charge of such an operation on such a potentially explosive day; and what control there was over the shooting once it has started.

Minister Louis le Grange gave the assurance in Parliament that there was no alternative but to shoot. And when the lives of policemen are threatened, they, like any other citizen, have the right to defend themselves. And let us not forget that it was indeed an unusual crowd of so-called mourners going, as they were, to pay their last respects armed with stones and sticks and the like.

On the other hand, there is the chilling reality that every Sharpeville, every Uitenhage, makes it that much more difficult to calm the minds and create a climate in which the voices of reason can be heard above the sound of gunfire. That is the dilemma with which the government is saddled. And it is of the utmost importance that, for the sake of attitudes in the country, no doubt should exist that even in the face of deliberate provocation and undermining, order will be maintained.

ANC May Attack Civilians, Multinational Companies

MB290619 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] A senior ANC official has said the group may soon attack white civilian targets and subsidiaries of multinational companies in its struggle against the South African Government.

Speaking at a news conference in Brussels, called to protest against the killings of black protesters in a black township in eastern Cape Province last week, ANC Brussels representative (Godfrey Moseri) said there is a rising feeling within the organization for more drastic action.

Radio Freedom Criticizes Reagan, U.S. Policy

MB281848 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1700 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, is once again on it, openly portraying his indifference toward our people. His comment on the recent brutal massacres of unarmed civilians by the apartheid regime's army and police in the black townships in the eastern Cape was irresponsible and uncalled for.

He shamelessly condoned the apartheid regime's brutality and referred to the more than 19 people killed in cold blood as elements who are bent on street violence.

In defiance of popular public opinions at home and abroad, the Reagan administration, with its abhorrent so-called policy of constructive engagement with the apartheid regime, continues to overtly sustain Pretoria's sinister schemes with the satanic intention of halting our people's popular resistance. Wide openly, the Reagan administration is encouraging the apartheid regime to continue with its repressive policies with increasing severity.

Throughout its term in the White House, our people have not experienced any let-up in the brutalities of the apartheid regime, but experience more and more violent repression — widespread and continued arrests of leaders of our democratic movement, students, workers, and church organizations. Its policy of constructive engagement is nothing but a political ruse aimed at tricking our people and the world that it was directing and advocating change in South Africa.

One has only to look at the events that took place in Uitenhage on 21 March, the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre, to see the negative effects of Ronald Reagan's so-called constructive engagement with the apartheid regime. It is because of Reagan's assurances and encouragement that today our townships have been turned into some sort of shooting range where crazy gunslingers, called South African Defense Force and police, take positions and practice firing at moving targets.

Talks coming out daily from the Reagan administration circles that apartheid is changing or reforming are empty talks. There cannot be any change in South Africa as long as the apartheid regime exists or without the full democratic participation of all the people.

The callous outrageous behavior of the apartheid regime cannot save its dirty face from our people's anger. Utterances such as those made by the United States President that our people were elements who are bent on street violence will never dampen our spirit of resistance. With or without Ronald Reagan, apartheid in South Africa will be dismantled and replaced by a unitary democratic and just society where all shall live in peace.

On our part, we vehemently condemn any support or collaboration with the apartheid regime in its execution of repressive and murderious acts against our people. This the Reagan administration must know.

ZAMBIA

Cooperation Commission Meeting With Zimbabwe

Concern Over Road Permits

MB230737 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Zimbabwe has expressed disappointment with Zambia's conditional issuing of road service permits to foreign truckers in the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, area.

Speaking at the opening of the Zambia-Zimbabwe Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation in Lusaka yesterday, Zimbabwean Trade and Commerce Minister Richard Hove said granting permits on condition that foreign haulers should share traffic with local ones is unfair.

Mr Hove, who is leading a 4-man delegation to the 2-day talks, said his country started issuing 90-day temporary road permits to foreign based operators from SADCC states in April last year, but Zambia grants similar permits on condition that Zimbabwean haulers agree to share traffic with the Zambian ones.

The leader of the Zambian side, Luke Mwananshiku, who is also the minister for finance and national commission for development, called for closer cooperation among developing countries.

Intensify Economic Cooperation

MB240707 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Mar 85

[Text] Zimbabwe and Zambia have agreed to intensify their economic and cultural cooperation. The agreement came at the end of the two countries' joint commission meeting held in the Zambian capital, Lusaka. The commission noted with satisfaction the considerable progress which has been made in all identified areas of cooperation since the last meeting held in Harare in February last year. Zimbabwe was represented at the meeting by the minister of trade and commerce, Comrade Richard Hove; the minister of transport, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze; and the minister of industry and technology, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai.

ZIMBABWE

Mubako Appeals for Peace, Warns Minority Parties

MB290636 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Simbi Mubako, has appealed to all Zimbabweans for peace. Comrade Mubako told ZIANA that all political leaders should campaign in peace and should not resort to violence. He said it is against the law for anyone to attack a law-abiding citizen because they belong to another political party.

Comrade Mubako said the police are there to ensure that people are not molested or evicted from their homes. He warned minority parties not to engage in violence as the country gears itself for the June general election.

Nkala Says Matabeleland Requests Security Forces Aid

MB280736 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The ZANU-PF secretary for finance, Comrade Enos Nkala, says people in Matabeleland have asked the government to deploy security forces during the election campaign because of increased abductions, harassment, and atrocities being committed by ZAPU dissidents in the area. Comrade Nkala, a Politburo member and also the minister of national supplies, told ZIANA yesterday that although there are few reports of dissident-related murders in the two provinces recently, more people are being abducted, raped, and harassed. He said dissidents have been instructed by ZAPU to campaign for that party and are causing untold suffering to the masses.

Comrade Nkala said eight Kezi teachers, two councillors, and several nurses and other prominent people were abducted recently and their whereabouts is not known. The minister said dissidents are using Bulawayo as their headquarters, adding that it is difficult to monitor their movements in and out of the city because ZAPU is a legal party. He said a member of Parliament for Matabeleland South is leading and directing the dissidents, but did not name him. Comrade Nkala said that ZANU-PF is stepping up its campaign in Matabeleland North and South, adding that there has been favorable response from the people.

Labor Activists Held for Preaching Insurrection

MB281029 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 27 Mar 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Zimbabwe Government has admitted to holding eight trade union activists, among them a British national who is a member of the British Labor Party. The allegation that they have been picked up was first made at the beginning of this month by a London-based group called the Southern Africa Labor and Education Project, SALEP. According to SALEP, they were detained simply for exposing corruption in the leadership of one of Zimbabwe's unions. SALEP said the activists were merely organizing workers committees and they accused Robert Mugabe's government of betraying the socialist revolution. Well, Nathan Shamuyarira, Zimbabwe's information minister, is in London. Julian Marshal asked him why the eight were being held.

[Begin recording] [Shamuyarira] They are being held because they were not organizing workers for the sake of advancing the position of the workers. They wanted a generalized insurrection throughout the country. They were saying quite openly to the people to whom they were in contact both in Qwe-Qwe, Gwero, and in Kadoma that they want to overthrow the government.

[Marshal] When you say that you have evidence that they were planning insurrection, is it simply in terms of what they were saying, or do you have documents?

[Shamuyarira] We have both documents and what they were saying.

[Marshal] And what is the general thrust of that?

[Shamuyarira] The general thrust was the overthrow of the government.

[Marshal] And to put in its place what?

[Shamuyarira] To put in its place a kind of utopian Trotskyite socialist government, which they have failed to install in this country or anywhere else, which they are trying to install in Zimbabwe. They are trying to transport Trotskyite revolutionary ideas and tendencies to Zimbabwe and we don't think that it is helpful to the people of Zimbabwe or to the people of Africa as a whole. We have our own revolutionary experience which we have gained after a long, protracted liberation war, and we are using that experience, as well as the theoretical basis, to evolve and transform our society. And that is the only way a revolution can be performed in any society. It is not by transportation.

[Marshal] You say you have evidence that this campaign was being orchestrated from outside the country.

[Shamuyarira] Yes, it has been orchestrated by the militant tendency of the Labor Party in Britain which is, you know, a very utopian, far-left Trotskyite movement.

[Marshal] Have you made any representations to the Labor Party about this?

[Shamuyarira] No, we have not made any representations, but they have made representations to us and we are going to reply them accordingly. The Labor Party should know of our commitment to the advancement of the workers and the peasants in Zimbabwe, and they should know our commitment to transformation in Africa generally, as well as in our own country in particular; but more important, that we will not accept any outdated Trotskyite ideas being transported to our territory by some of its members who have failed abysmally to make any impact on their own society.

[Marshal] How long are you going to hold the eight for?

[Shamuyarira] As long as the investigation takes, but as soon as the investigation is finished the government will decide either to release or deport those who do not belong to the Zimbabwean society.

[Marshal] And would you expect any of them to be charged?

[Shamuyarira] I would not prejudge that, you know, question at the moment. It will be decided by my colleague, the minister of justice, legal, and parliamentary affairs. [end recording]

Officials Hopeful Over Export Earnings

$500 Million From Minerals

MB260758 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Zimbabwe (?could realize) 500 million dollars from the export of minerals by the end of July this year. The minister of mines, Comrade Callistus Ndlovu, said both nickel and ferrochrome are on demand and as a result [words indistinct]. He said gold was picking up and the 500-dollar floor price being offered to producers is an incentive for higher and steady production.

Comrade Ndlovu noted that [name indistinct] has indicated that it might buy 20 million dollars worth of asbestos from Zimbabwe.

$350 Million From Tobacco

MB280805 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The president of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association, Mr Roy Ashburner, says Zimbabwe is likely to earn 350 million dollars from tobacco this year. He says the current quality of tobacco is one of the best in many years. Last season Zimbabwe also earned 350 million dollars from tobacco. The crop was the best in 15 years and averaged 206 cents a kilogram for the 119 million kilograms sold. Ninety-eight percent of the tobacco crop was exported.

Briefs

PLO Upgrades Mission— The diplomatic status of the PLO's charge d'affaires to Zimbabwe, Comrade 'Ali Halimah, has been upgraded to ambassador. Comrade Halimah paid a courtesy call on the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, in Harare today. Comrade Mugabe said he is glad to see the status of the PLO upgraded, and expressed the hope that Comrade Halimah will continue to work energetically for the Palestinian cause. [Text] [*Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Mar 85 MB*]

New Envoy From Iraq— The president, Comrade Banana, this morning received the new Iraqi ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Mundhir al-Windawi. Prior to this post he served in Japan, France, and Italy. [Summary] [*Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Mar 85 MB*]